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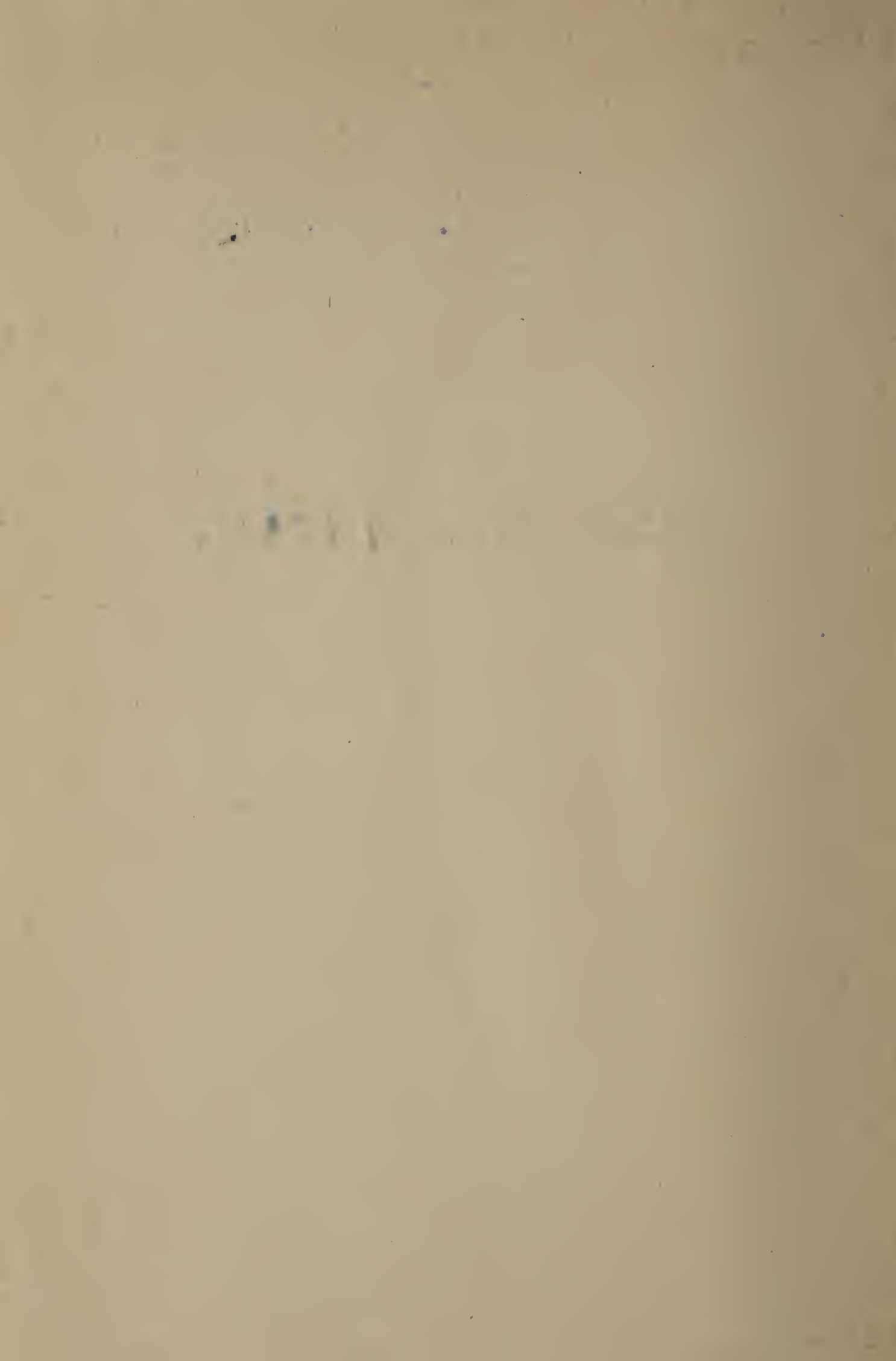
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Hess, Frank E.

History of Balser Hess 1747-
1806 and descendants

Frank E. Hess.



History of Balser Hess 1747-1806 and Descendants

Compiled by
FRANK E. HESS
211 E. Douglas St.
GOSHEN, INDIANA

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Henry Balser Hess 1857-1930
Sarah Ann Rensberger Hess 1861-1921
Parents of Frank E. Hess 1889-

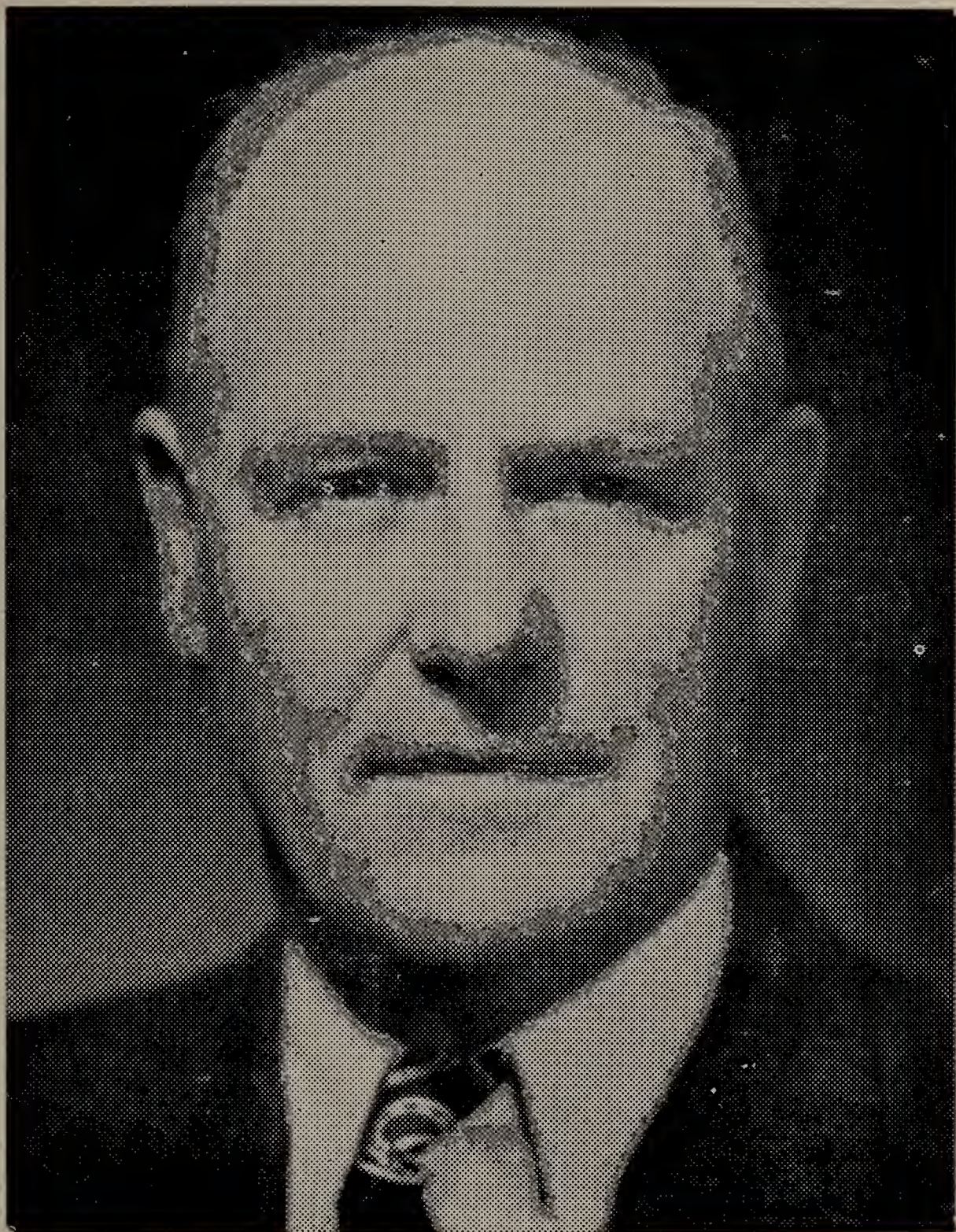
DEDICATED
to
MY BELOVED PARENTS
HENRY BALSER HESS
and
SARAH ANN RENSBERGER HESS

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Frank Ezra Hess 1889-



Wright Ladd Hess—Born December 31, 1888
Received B S. degree University of Wyoming on June 19, 1919.
Collected much Hess family history.
Died January 26, 1926.

Introduction

It is always a tribute to a writer's power when he can depict scenes and people who move in a realm purely imaginary, and yet, who retain all the qualities that make them seem real. In such writing, the glory of the work is made manifest by all of us, the readers, because we immediately identify ourselves with the imaginary characters and assume their struggles and their triumphs.

How much more then is the tribute due to a writer's power who detects in his own family the elements of the enduring qualities that have made his people representative of the kind of which America is proud. Frank E. Hess truly had in mind no need to look beyond the family circle to find the heroes and heroines who make life more fascinating because they actually lived and triumphed.

The author, thrilled by the task he set himself to do, studied for years to find the details and the records to make this history bear the truth as he wished to present it. To do so his exploratory search led him to records in Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania, Washington, D. C., and California in addition to his native Indiana. He dipped into faded family records, Court records, old Bibles, old family letters, in fact into every bit of documentary evidence that could offer any choice bit of information that could help in the reconstruction of the pattern he alone could grasp. In addition he roamed into old cemeteries where his people have been buried so that he could read and interpret inscriptions that could throw a little light on his subject. He has done this work for the pure joy of doing it; he has asked no remuneration, and so we see in him the evidence of a man true to the type he has been seeking to depict. He is one of them, who people the American Highway, whose deeds are yet unsung, but whose undying loyalty and service to this country have laid the foundation for what we so lightly refer to as the "American way of life." He has done more than present a family group. Indeed Frank E. Hess has caught the spirit and message of our great nation, with its mixture of humble

and successful people with their ideals and dreams—sometimes shattered—sometimes achieved—but a people emerging distinctive and triumphant from the early seventeen hundreds to the present.

We of the Hess family and all the readers of this book wish to thank him for his faithful service in commemorating and preserving the life stories of our common ancestors for our posterity. May our criticisms be charitable and our praises from the heart.

Mamie Hess Doseff
200 North Menard Street
Chicago, Illinois
June 10, 1950



The two Henrys.

Henry G. Hess 1862-1938, youngest son of Elias Hess. Left.
Henry B. Hess 1857-1930, youngest son of John Hess. Right.



Left to right: Frank Ezra Hess at six. Addie Chloe Hess (Taylor) at one. Charles Wm. Hess (1891-1938) at four. Children of Henry B. Hess and second wife Sarah Ann Rensberger (Hess).

Preface

Compiling a family history is a tedious and many times an unrewarded task. If we could only lift the veil and see the past: see the activity in the courtroom in 1759 when George Balser Hess was apprenticed to Michael Lederman; see him as a prisoner of the British in the old sugar house in New York City; see his prosperous leather-goods store in Bedford, Pennsylvania; see the flatboat move slowly down the Ohio River as they left Pittsburg; see the reunion of the Cryders and Hesses as they reached Hopetown, Ohio in 1798; see the consternation on their faces when Balser Hess lost title to the Ross County farm; see the family gathered for the burial of Balser Hess in 1806; see the covered wagons of his children and grandchildren slowly wind their way westward, 1819 to 1850, and establish new outposts in the Mississippi Valley, our task would be easier. But those lips are sealed by death. They were too busy taking possession of the "Promised Land" to leave written records.

Therefore, we must reconstruct the story from bits of information preserved here and there, from court and deed records, histories, genealogies and paper clippings, scattered from Pennsylvania to Illinois, as they left their marks on the "Sands of Time". Much information remains hidden that for lack of time and ability we have not uncovered.

That error is present in this historical sketch is certain and admitted. Many times we have been confronted with conflicting information and it has been our duty to determine the truth. Here written records, and especially court and deed records, must take precedent over tradition. We have examined all information in the light of reason, reached our conclusions, and have set out for the record that which, in our humble judgment, was nearest the truth.

I wish here to express my indebtedness to the following for their contribution in making this history possible:

William Preston Brown and Louisa Hess Brown, his wife, who collected data of the Hess family for over fifty years.

Dr. Mary Hess Brown and Jessie Hess Brown, daughters of above, for access to this material.

Wright L. Hess, who collected much valuable information.

Fama Hess Stoddard, Wright's sister, for turning this information over. (Note: Mr. Brown and Mr. Hess contemplated publishing a Hess History, and both died before completing the same, and Wright's material was left with his surviving sister, Mrs. Stoddard.)

Charles W. Hess, for material loaned from his files.

Esther K. Hess, for proofreading original and final draft and correcting same for errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.

Mabel Hess, who has copied many records, documents and sketches.

Lora Lucinda Mainard, who has worked faithfully, made many valuable suggestions, corrected historical error, furnished much of the genealogy included, and whose counsel I have continuously sought, and who has typed the final manuscript for the publisher.

FRANK E. HESS

Goshen, Indiana, 1950

(GEORGE) BALSER HESS

THE NAME OF HESS OR HESS(E)

The name of Hess or Hess(e) probably originated in Hesse, a province of Germany, where it is known that families of this name lived as early as the sixteenth century. During the seventeenth century many families bearing the name are known to have lived in Germany, Holland, France, Switzerland, and other parts of Europe, and all were probably of German origin.

EARLY HESSES IN AMERICA

In the early eighteenth century people of this name began to arrive in America. The ship lists of immigrants landing at Philadelphia from 1727 to 1775 include many of this name. These lists, however, are very incomplete and only males over sixteen years of age are listed, in most cases, which makes it certain that many of the name who cannot be found on any ship list landed in America. These ship lists which were preserved seem to have started with the year of 1727 and we know there were Hesses in America prior to this date. I quote from *Pennsylvania German Pioneers* by Strausburger and Hinke in the introduction on page 23, "Only three captains have given the names of women and children; most of them thought to give the male adults was sufficient, and even this was oftentimes carelessly done. Each captain wrote his list on a large, loose sheet of paper which he handed to the magistrate at Philadelphia, who incorporated the names of the signers of the oath of allegiance into the minutes of the council. What became of the lists of the captains handed in on loose sheets of paper? Sad to relate, most of them were lost. Of the 324 ships arriving between 1727 and 1775, we have captain lists for only 138 ships. Also, if a male passenger was sick on the day of arrival, he was not required to take the oath of allegiance later." The reader is asked to get these facts clearly in mind, for as we reveal the life of our ancestor (George) Balser Hess and his father, who is now known with certainty, we shall discover that neither can be traced to or found on any passenger lists of German emigrants arriving at the port of Philadelphia.

(GEORGE) BALSER HESS

Who was George Balser Hess? Where and when was he born? Why was he an apprentice to Michael Leatherman?

George Balser Hess, according to family tradition which is quite consistent and unanimous, was born in Wurtenburg, Germany, in the year of 1741. This statement has found its way into several county histories and until recently has never been doubted or questioned. It has been believed that he arrived in Philadelphia September 24, 1751, on the ship *Neptune*. I have examined this passenger list and found a Balthaser Hess listed. Referring to above statement the reader will note that only male passengers of the age of sixteen or more were listed. This Balthaser Hess then must have been born prior to 1735 if he was sixteen or over, and he may have been much over sixteen. In fact it is reasonable to assume he was, as this is a tender age to make such a trip alone, and no other Hesses are listed on this ship. This man could hardly have been our ancestor under the theory that he was born in 1741, the accepted date up to this time. Many times, when confronted with written records of dates and facts, family traditions must be revised. That seems now to be the case in the above beliefs.

Without further comment I introduce the two following written documents, asking that you read them carefully, with an open mind, and draw your own conclusions. We shall refer to them as other written facts are cited.

DOCUMENT NO. ONE

Court Record of the apprenticeship of George Balser Hess to Michael Lederman (Leatherman) of York, Pennsylvania

"Orphan's Court Docket, Book A. Page 115, in clerk's office, of the records of York, York County, Pennsylvania, Dated March 28, 1759. 32nd year of King George II. (Note: King George II was crowned in 1727.) Came into court Marie Eva the wife of Phillip Peter, late Marie Eva Hess, widow of Casper Hess, late of the town of York in the County of York, husbandman deceased, who died intestate, praying that George Balser Hess a minor orphan, son of said Casper Hess, of the age of twelve years about the twenty-fifth day of this instant month of March, may be bound and apprenticed to Michael Lederman of the town of York aforesaid; cordwainer, during his

minority. It is thereupon considered by the Court and the said George Balser is hereby bound an apprentice to the said Michael Lederman, to learn the trade or art of a cordwainer or shoemaker, until he shall be aged twenty-one years. In consideration whereof said Michael Lederman doth covenant and agree to teach, or cause the said apprentice to be taught the trade or art of a shoe and boot maker which he now practiseth according to the best of his knowledge and ability and the capacity of the said apprentice and to find for said apprentice during the said term, sufficient meal, drink, apparel, washing and lodging, and to teach or cause the said apprentice to read and write English and arithmetic as far as the rule of three. Direct and at the expiration of the said term, to pay unto him the said apprentice, two suits of apparel one whereof shall be new and a complete set of tools of this trade.

Signed, John Pope Esq., Judge."

(Copied by Frank E. Hess, June 29, 1936)

The above record is written with a goose quill pen in old English script and is in a most excellent state of preservation. The record is a public record in the clerk of the court's office in the court house at York, Pennsylvania.

Along with the above court proceeding was found the papers pertaining to the estate of Casper Hess. These will be mentioned later.

DOCUMENT NO. TWO

A CERTIFICATE

A certificate of good character of Baltzer Hess under the notarial seal of John Doll, Notary Public of York.

We the subscribers, inhabitants of the Borough of York, in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, certify that we were inhabitants and resided within or near the said Borough for twenty-five years last past and upwards—that among others of the inhabitants in the said Borough we were acquainted with a certain Baltzer Hess, who served his apprenticeship with Michael Leatherman, Cordwainer, since deceased; and that from his infancy and during the whole time he resided with us, at the place aforesaid, he was of a plain, fair and good character, and never heard of any act, matter or thing by him done prejudicial to his character.

Given at York the thirteenth day of April Anno Domini
one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven.

Signed

Conrad Leatherman
Christopher Lauman
Jacob Upp
Michael Dowdel
Baltzer Spangler

Rudolph Spangler
Christopher Stoehr
John Hay
George Lewis Lefler

I, Phillip Gassler Esquire, Chief Burgess of the Borough
of York, in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, certify that
I did often see Baltzer Hess while an apprentice to Michael
Leatherman since deceased and also when he, the said
Baltzer Hess, was a prisoner to the British, at New York
in the late war between Great Britain and America, and
during the said term he was held and esteemed a good and
honest citizen.

Given at York the 13th day of April A.D., 1797.

Phillip Gassler.

I, John Doll, Junior, Notary Public for the Common-
wealth of Pennsylvania duly commissioned and sworn,
dwelling in the Borough of York certify and make known
that the within written instrument of writing was sub-
scribed and certified to, at the Borough of York on the day
of the date thereof by Conrad Leatherman, Christopher
Stoehr, Michael Dowdel, Christopher Lauman, Baltzer
Spangler, John Hay, Esquire, Jacob Upp, Rudolph Spangler
and George Lewis Lefler, Esquire, citizens and inhabitants
of the said Borough, and I do certify that Phillip Gassler
Esquire by whom the foregoing certificate was signed, is
the chief Burgess of the said Borough duly elected and
sworn agreeably to the Charter of said Borough. In testi-
mony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my
Notarial Seal, the fourteenth day of April in the year of
our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven.

John Doll, Jr.
Notary Public"

Seal

The above is an exact copy of the original now in the
possession of Dr. Mary Hess Brown and Jessie Brown,
daughters of Louisa Hess Brown, daughter of John Moses
Hess, son of Balser Hess, Sr., to whom the certificate per-

tains. It is preserved between two plates of glass and hangs in their home at 341 North Arden Street, Los Angeles, California. Louisa Hess Brown had same typed and printed and put many copies in circulation among members of the family in the 1890s.

(Note: This certificate was brought by Balser Hess, Sr. to Ohio in 1798 and was taken by his eldest son Daniel at his death. It in turn went to the Rev. Daniel Hess, Jr., son of Daniel Hess Sr., from whom Louisa Hess Brown obtained it many years ago and bound it, as above stated, for preservation. The above Rev. Daniel Hess has attended the Hess reunion on two occasions and the writer met him at the Hess reunion held at Jackson Felkners, Milford, Indiana, on August 25, 1904, and has pictures of him at the 1903-4 reunions. He spent his last years in Georgia where he is buried. He left no children, only step-children, and this is probably the reason he gave the certificate to his cousin Louisa Hess Brown. A marker in his memory has been placed in Union Cemetery near his father, and this marker bears the following inscription:

"DANIEL HESS
1827-1895"

1895 is an error, as he was very much alive in 1903 and 1904, and it is the writer's belief that he died in 1905.)

Let us now return to the certificate on page 13, which was brought by George Balser Hess to Ohio in 1798, and which today we would call a letter of recommendation. He went to considerable trouble to obtain same. We know that in 1797 when it was signed he was living with his family in the next county west, in the town of Bedford. It was back to the home of his boyhood and enlistment in Washington's army that he went for this certificate. He certainly knew that the following year he would be moving into the far West of that day. He evidently wanted to use it for a recommendation to his new neighbors and friends in that new home in the Ohio wilderness. Yes, it might assist in the acquiring of land, and lend confidence to his new acquaintances in future business ventures. He went at it in a careful and businesslike way. When carefully studied it tells us much of his early life as a boy, an orphan, his educational advantages, his trade, his service in Washington's army, his being held a prisoner of war by the British in

New York. He had it signed by nine old friends in York. Some of these were friends of his father and mother, as will develop later. He also had the mayor of the town affix his statement and signature to the document, and had it notarized. Our ancestor was justly proud of it and prized it highly, guarded it zealously, preserved it carefully and gave it to his eldest son Daniel for safe keeping. Little did he know that this branch of the family was to end with his grandson, Daniel Jr., who left no offspring. I shall have reasons to refer to this certificate as we unfold his life.

In late years I have oftentimes wondered why George Balser Hess was an apprentice to Michael Leatherman, if he was born in Wurtenburg, Germany, and came to this country as a young man. Usually when a boy was given as an apprentice it was because he was an orphan, or the parents were too poor to care for him. He, of course, could have come over with parents or older brothers and, being too young to care for himself, be placed in an apprenticeship. Let us remember those were hard days. Only those with undaunted courage sought this wilderness as a future home. Usually some deep religious conviction was underneath this outward courage. Many immigrants agreed to work out the cost of their transportation over here, and oftentimes apprenticed their children for like reasons.

While in York, Pennsylvania, in June, 1936, I resolved if possible to find the correct answer to some of the questions raised by reading the second document cited, his certificate of good character, which was signed by nine pioneers and the mayor of this town. York was a hotbed of revolution during the Revolutionary War and was the nominal capital for a short time, and it was here that our ancestor joined George Washington's army. In York I met Henry James Young, whose mother's name was Hess, and at that time was researcher for the York County Historical Society. He took a keen interest in the things I wished solved, and with his help I located and read much pertaining to our ancestor, his father Casper Hess, his mother Maria Eva Peter (widow of the late Casper Hess), and his sister Maria Magdalena Hess, who married Jacob Fletzer and lived in Frederick County, Maryland. These were new facts, recorded in legal documents, about his immediate family, that for good and sufficient reasons (principally premature deaths) did not come down as family traditions. In the light of this ex-

planation, I ask you now to turn back to page 12 and re-read document number one.

That the writer was awe-stricken is to put it mildly. Why? This upset one of our oldest and strongest traditions, that George Balser Hess was born in Wurtenburg, Germany, in 1741. I had heard this from childhood from my Grandfather Hess's brothers and sisters and Uncle Mose Hess of Columbus, Ohio, all grandchildren of George Baltzer Hess. This also conflicts with what I had read in *The Franklin County History of Franklin County, Ohio*, *The Elkhart County History of Elkhart County, Indiana*, written pamphlets and cards printed for the Hess Family Association, and what I myself had written for *Stories and Sketches of Elkhart County, Indiana*, published in 1936 by H. S. K. Bartholomew. From the truth of written, acknowledged documents, court records, estate proceedings and recorded deeds we cannot escape and, regardless of our early beliefs, we must accept.

These two documents dovetail together so beautifully that there cannot be the slightest doubt that it was our ancestor, George Balser Hess, that was in Judge Pope's court and was the subject of his decision and written court record. From it we learn much: first that he was born March 25, 1747. I believe that the seven has been misread as a one during the years following his death, which is an easy error and explains the traditional date of 1741. We learn that he had a father who died at York and that his name was Casper Hess; that his mother had remarried, and that the stepfather's name was Phillip Peter; that by a court order he was an apprentice to Michael Leatherman, and not by order of someone of the family, and there he learned the shoemaker's trade, which he followed while he lived in Bedford County, Pennsylvania (deed from John Penn the Younger et al by Att. to Balser Hess, cordwainer, recorded February 28, 1791, of the records of Bedford County, Pennsylvania) and Franklin County, Ohio. The question as to where he was born is not settled by these documents and will be discussed later.

ESTATE OF CASPER HESS

Now that the identity of his father has been definitely established, let us inquire if he left a will or if an estate was ever opened to close his business affairs and distribute his

assets. No will was ever produced. We therefore find he died intestate. This rather indicates that he was still a young man. His death may have been sudden or even violent. On July 5, 1759, four months after the above proceedings in Judge Pope's Court, and seven years after Phillip Peter married the widow, which was April 4, 1752 (Register Christ's Lutheran Church at page 505) in the same court an estate was opened for Casper Hess, file number A.205, clerk's office, York, York County, Pennsylvania. We find that Phillip Peter and his wife Maria Eve (widow of Casper Hess) were by the court appointed joint administrators. They gave bond in the amount of 100 pounds or about \$400 to \$500 in our money. The inventory lists some real estate, a house, household goods, ten books, a cow, etc., amounting to 37 pounds, 8 shillings and 6 pence, the amount of the personal property, over and above real estate. It also lists as his heirs one daughter Maria of the state of Maryland and a son George Balser of York. Later your attention will be called to deeds that came from these same named two children for above mentioned real estate. The date of the death of Casper Hess has not been established. We know only that he must have died sometime between the birth of George Balser March 25, 1747, and April 4, 1752, the date of the marriage of the widow to Phillip Peter. No record could be found as to place or time of burial, although there are many old cemetery records available. Likewise, no record of the arrival of Casper Hess could be found among the lists of German emigrants, taken from the ship lists of those arriving in Philadelphia from 1727, the date of the first authentic record, down to 1745 when we know that he was at York, according to the baptismal record of his daughter, Maria Magdalena Hess, July 24, 1745. The ship lists as given by Strausburger and Hinke in *Pennsylvania German Pioneers* have been searched. It is not at all strange that the name of Casper Hess is not found among them when we consider the careless way in which they were handled, as explained on page 11 of this narrative. Of course he might have been born here. However, this thought does not coincide with the Wurtenburg origin of our family so traditionally strong, and would move this origin back another generation. Here are a few simple facts of court record: he with his wife Maria Eva lived in York, Pennsylvania in the 1740s. He died in the late 1740s or early 1750s leav-

ing two small children, Maria Magdalena baptized July 24, 1745, and George Baltzer born March 25, 1747. It is evident that he was still a young man at death and that his death was premature. There were many Hesses in and around York in the 1700s and it is almost certain they were his relatives and close kin and that he came to America on their invitation. The Wurtenburg tradition of his son George Baltzer is so strong that I prefer at this writing to believe that it was Casper who came from Wurtenburg, since we have proven George Baltzer was born in York, and the tradition has been confused as it was handed down from generation to generation. It must be remembered that George Baltzer probably could not remember his father Casper and he might not have been too clear as to the correct history of his father. This tradition comes down through two branches of the family: the Ohio family, descendants of John Moses Hess, the youngest son of George Baltzer; and the Indiana family, descendants of his second son Baltzer II. It must also be remembered that George Baltzer never discussed this with a grandchild. He married rather late in life and lived to be fifty-nine years of age, dying on December 27, 1806. The writer's grandfather John Hess, was born on the Ohio homestead August 10, 1810, and was the oldest grandchild bearing the name Hess. The tradition of the Wurtenburg origin of George Baltzer was written into the Franklin County, Ohio, and Elkhart County, Indiana, histories by the grandchildren in Ohio and Indiana, and they could have had their information only from their parents and their grandmother, Mary Eve Hensel Hess, who lived until 1855. She was not reared in York and probably had only a meager knowledge of her husband's family history, and knew little of his father Casper. We now leave Casper Hess without settling who he was or from whence he came, and trust future research or future historians will find the answer to our questions. We know he lived and passed to that other world from which no traveler returns.

BIRTH PLACE OF GEORGE BALTZER HESS

From document number one, page 12, we have positively learned that George Baltzer Hess was born March 25, 1747. This court record was made March 28, 1759, at York when the boy was twelve years and three days old. It does not conclusively prove he was born at York. Unfortunately, no

baptismal service is recorded in any of the church records. In the private records of Rev. Jacob Lischy V.D.M. (minister 1743 to 1769) under the subject of births and baptisms we find the following: Maria Magdalena, daughter of Casper Hess and Maria Eva, was baptized July 24, 1745, and the sponsors at this service were Baltzer Spangler (one of the signers of the certificate of good character, document two, page 13), and his wife Margreth. Casper Hess and his wife Maria Eva were undoubtedly members of the German Reformed or Lutheran Church of York of which the Rev. Lischy was pastor for twenty-six years. (*History of York County, Pennsylvania* by Carter) This was an infant baptism and the child probably only a few days or weeks old. Now the mother was left a widow and was remarried to Phillip Peter April 4, 1752, at York (Register of Christ Lutheran Church of York). This fits perfectly into the picture. According to the court record he was born March 25, 1747, approximately two years after his sister. The father Casper died sometime between March 25, 1747, the birth of the son and April 4, 1752, the date of the remarriage of the widow to Phillip Peter, of York. Since all these happenings from 1745 to 1752 were at York it is very certain that George Baltzer was born at York.

DEEDS, DOCUMENTS, AND RECORDS

If you will refer to document one, page 12, you will note that Judge Pope on March 28, 1759, entered an order giving George Baltzer Hess unto one Michael Lederman as an apprentice, outlining the duties of Mr. Lederman to the boy, etc. In document two you will note that the mayor of York in his statement says that he knew and did often see Baltzer Hess when an apprentice to Michael Leatherman and also when he was a prisoner of the British, at New York in the late war, etc. Thirty-eight years elapsed between the order of Judge Pope and the signing of the certificate of good character by Mayor Phillip Gassler. We learn that the apprenticeship must have been carried out, that Michael Leatherman is now deceased and the boy George Baltzer Hess has grown to manhood and been through the Revolutionary War. These two documents dovetail beautifully. Again I should like to call your attention to the baptismal service for Maria Magdalena Hess, daughter of Casper and Maria Eva Hess, on July 24, 1745. The sponsors at this

service were Baltzer Spangler and Margreth Spangler. Turning to document number two you will find Baltzer Spangler as the fifth signer of the certificate, showing the close relation of these signers. In the office of the recorder of deeds for York County, Pennsylvania are two deeds of much interest. The first (Deed Rec. 2 E, page 538) given February 8, 1774, reads, "Jacob Fletzer of Frederick County, State of Maryland, yeoman (farmer) and wife Mary, daughter of the late Casper Hess, yeoman; to Michael Doudle for five pounds their interest in a lot in York Town owned by the said Casper Hess." The second (Deed Rec. 2 E, page 539) is dated March 4, 1775, and reads, "Baltzer Hess of the Province of Maryland, cordwainer, to Michael Doudle for forty pounds, his interest in lot No. 131 in York Town, formerly owned by the grantor's father Casper Hess." Now turning to document two you will note that Michael Doudle is the fourth signer of this certificate, again showing the close relation of the signers. These deeds were given during the Revolutionary War, and tell us that Baltzer must have spent some time in Maryland, probably with his sister Marie Fletzer; also that Casper the father was a yeoman or farmer; and that Baltzer still followed his trade of cordwainer or shoemaker. Since no wife joins him in the signature to this deed he is still single, which fits the picture since he did not marry Mary Eve Hensel until 1782, after the war.

DROPPING THE NAME GEORGE

Our ancestor sometime in early life began dropping the name George. It was used in the court record document one. He signed above deed as Baltzer. It appears he was married under the name Baltzer. In document two, dated 1797, only Baltzer is used. His land in Bedford County, Pennsylvania, was held under the name of Baltzer. Note deed dated February 28, 1791, "John Penn the Younger et al by Att. to Baltzer Hess of the town of Bedford a tract of land for 30 pounds." In 1798 just prior to moving to Ohio he sold the same tract to Martin Reilley for 500 pounds, and used only the name of Baltzer. Mrs. Howard Cessna of the Bedford County Historical Society says the name Baltzer appears frequently in the early days of Bedford as does also the name of Michael Cryder. His land in Franklin County, Ohio, was held in the name of Baltzer. He signed his will

Balser, named his second son Balser, and the epitaph on the monument in the Union Cemetery, Columbus, says only Balser. In the list of Revolutionary soldiers and Franklin County pioneers inscribed on the wall of Memorial Hall of Columbus, Ohio, it is only Balser. At the Hess reunion of August 25, 1904, Lydia Hess Shaffer handed out cards tracing her ancestry as a granddaughter to him and called him George Bolser. Baltzer seems to be the accepted name although he was doubtless christened George Baltzer. The writer attributes the dropping of the name to several reasons: first, simplicity; second, Baltzer was the German name for one of the three wise men, and our ancestor was devoutly religious; third, George was the name of a line of English kings who were very unpopular during and following the war. The name Baltzer has changed in its spelling from generation to generation. In all the early documents and deeds of his York, Pennsylvania, residency the name is spelled Baltzer. In the will written December 3, 1806, it is written Balser. This will was written at Columbus, Ohio, only twenty-four days before his death and signed by his X. Either he could not write English or more likely was too infirm at this time to sign his name. It is often spelled Bolser by his grandchildren and later generations. All are variations of the original Baltzer.

BOYHOOD OF GEORGE BALSER HESS

Up to now we have dealt mostly with facts and documents and have corrected some errors in our traditional beliefs. Now that we have established where and when this boy was born, and know something of his parentage, let us follow his life and experiences. They are not too different from the lives of other orphans of the Colonial Age. After the death of his father Casper Hess, the widow Maria Eva Hess married Philip Peter on April 4, 1752. Philip Peter was a German emigrant who arrived in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, August 28, 1750, on the ship *Two Brothers* sailing from Rotterdam (*Rupp's 30 Thousand Names of Emigrants in Pennsylvania*, page 234) taking the oath of allegiance to Great Britain the day of arrival. He came on west to York where many Germans had settled, and where he probably had both relatives and friends. Here he met the young widow of Casper. It is logical to believe that Philip Peter was also a yeoman or farmer as was Casper Hess. He prob-

ably stepped in and farmed the land and cared for the home Casper Hess had established but because of a premature death had not lived to enjoy. It is a strange world and sometimes a cruel world. The family consisted of George Baltzer, his mother, his new step-father and, his sister Maria Magdalena. Farm life was rugged in that far away Colonial day of two hundred years ago. George Baltzer was five years old and already big enough to assume child responsibilities. All farm work was done by hand. There were no Oliver plows, but spades; no McCormick mowing machines and reapers, but hand sickles; no power saws, but axes; no coal, but plenty of wood to be cut and corded. Oxen constituted the farm power and horses the means of transportation. Children early became farm hands. Our ancestor was such a hand. Being an orphan and under a step-father his lot was probably not a bed of roses. He started life the hard way, an orphan in a new country. It was up to him and him alone to make good. He had no father to set him up on a farm or in other business. Those with such humble beginnings are oftentimes a success and sometimes leave this world in a blaze of glory. Our ancestor had a hard life all the way but was a success, taking his successes and defeats calmly and with little ado.

GEORGE BALSER HESS, THE APPRENTICE

There were few trades in the Colonies in that far away day two hundred years ago. Ninety percent of the people were farmers. The percentage was probably higher among the German settlers. The mothers spun the wool and wove most of the family clothing; the farm produced the food—two necessities of life. There were no luxuries. There were a few trades such as shoemakers, weavers, printers, etc. By the age of twelve George Balser was tiring of farming and longed to learn a trade. There was an interesting meeting one evening in early March, 1759. Let's look in on this meeting. It is the home of Michael Lederman and his good wife. The lasts, the knives, the twine, the awls are stilled. Present are the Ledermans, Maria Eva Hess Peter, Philip Peter, Maria Magdalena Hess, Rev. Jacob Lischy, and the subject of this sketch, George Balser Hess. He has told his mother and the Rev. Lischy that he wants to be a shoemaker or cordwainer just like his idol, Michael Lederman, who is an expert at his trade. Would he be willing to take this lad as

an apprentice? The Rev. Lischy moderates the discussion. Terms and agreements are reached. Rev. Lischy is a good counsellor and a farsighted man of letters. He suggests that the work of the evening now must be made a court record. Yes, he will arrange for a lawyer to draw the petition and file it in Judge Pope's Court. The life of an apprentice is oftentimes a hard life. Our ancestor is used to a hard life and is ready to proceed. He has made suitable preparation. He is filled with determination. The result of the conference was the hearing before Judge Pope, which was written up with a goose quill pen, incorporating all the facts and agreements, and today is in an excellent state of preservation and is document one to which the reader has been introduced. It was a great day for our ancestor—one that he naturally never forgot. How many boys of twelve have had a day in court? It is a coincidence that the Master was also before the doctors and lawyers at exactly the same age.

It is the beginning of another epoch in the life of our ancestor. This night of March 28, 1759, he finds himself in a new home, the home of Michael Lederman, his good wife and daughters. Little is known of his life for the next nine years. As Luke says of the Master following his youthful episode, "He increased in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man." So did George Balser. He grew in stature (it is said he was six feet four), increased in wisdom (learned a trade and to read and write), with God (attended Rev. Lischy's church), and man (took his place in society and emerged a citizen of York). That he learned his trade well and loved it is evidenced by the fact that he followed it almost exclusively till the turn of the century when he left Bedford, Pennsylvania, and became a pioneer in Ohio. He even may have followed it some here, but this was a new unconquered country, and it is likely that most of his time was devoted to clearing the land, building log houses, and farming. It is certain he always made the shoes for his large family and, I suspect, for many of the neighbors. Never did he lose interest in his trade, and believing Franklin, he kept his shop and his shop kept him. He was indebted to Michael Lederman who did his work well.

EARLY MANHOOD OF GEORGE BALSER HESS 1768 - 1776

It is March 25, 1768. Our ancestor reached his maturity today. What a day in the life of every boy! He is twenty-one years old and his own boss. He is ready to vote, to sign contracts, and hold property in his own name. Suddenly he is a man, not a boy, responsible for his acts, a full-fledged citizen of a great nation, Great Britain. What a sense of importance! Is he aware of the accompanying responsibility? Michael Lederman has made good. Balser has that new outfit of wearing apparel. He is attired in new clothes from head to foot. This puts confidence in any man. He is looking for more worlds to conquer. He has a complete set of tools for a cordwainer or shoemaker, ready to launch out in his chosen profession. Should he remain with Michael Lederman? Possibly he should leave the old home and go to a strange place. Then there is the chance to follow his sister, Maria Magdalena, who has now married Jacob Fletzer and located to the south in Frederick County, Maryland, and there establish his own business. Who has not had to make such a decision? There seems to be evidence that he chose to remain in York for a time and he may have continued to work for Lederman. This kept him near his mother and many of his best friends, and his sponsor, Mike Lederman. Some years later we do know that he moved to Maryland and perhaps lived in his sister's home and plied his trade there. It was on March 4, 1775, just before the Revolutionary War, that he gave a deed to Michael Doudle for forty pounds, deeding his interest in lot 131 in the town of York, formerly owned by his father Casper Hess, in which he gave his residence as the province of Maryland (Deed record 2 E, page 538). We now know positively that seven years after completing his apprenticeship, he was with his sister in Maryland, was still single and was sticking to his trade. Deeds given today do not give so much information.

As he followed his trade in York and later in Maryland, there were beginnings of discord between the colonies and the mother country, Great Britain. York was fast becoming a hotbed of revolutionists, those who believed we should break away and declare our independence from Great Britain. This was dangerous talk. They were traitors,

viewed from the mother country. Our ancestor heard much of this talk and sentiment and was fast becoming a revolutionist. It takes the fire of youth to start a revolution. He could see a great future for a new nation, unhampered by European domination and taxes. He had little property, and of this world's goods not too much to lose, if they failed. The middle aged and old are cautious, a term not in the vocabulary of youth. Young men see visions, old men dream dreams. His mind was made up. He was sure of the cause. He loved adventure. He was ready to fight, Only the time, place and opportunity had to be determined. He had heard of the Minute Men and the Boston Tea Party. He was ripe for service in Washington's army.

MARY EVE HENSEL

I now ask the reader to go with me over to the little town of Bedford, Pennsylvania, about ninety miles to the west of York. Twelve miles south of Bedford at Fletchers on Casselman's Run lived a family named Hensel. It is the year of 1775. The war clouds are rising. In the family is a twelve year old daughter named Mary Eve. They are German farmers, well-to-do judged by the standards of that day, possessing much of that fine quality we call German thrift. Mary Eve Hensel was born January 22, 1763. At twelve years of age she was pictured as a beautiful child. It was in the above year of 1775 that George Balser Hess, with a company of friends from York, made a trip to this community, and chanced to meet Mary Eve. He was a man of twenty-eight, she was a child of twelve. He was smitten by the beauty of the child and it is said fell in love at first sight. Family tradition says, and I now quote from a letter written by Laura Carpenter Finley, wife of Dr. Robert S. Finley of Xenia, Ohio, to her cousin Louisa Hess Brown on February 25, 1890, both of whom were granddaughters of George Balser Hess and Mary Eve, "Grandfather on this trip lost his heart to the beautiful girl child, and told her she must some day be his wife, and that he would wait for her." It is possible that he knew that he was going into the war which was then inevitable. Anyway he went back to York and soon thereafter enlisted in Washington's army, but he never forgot this child. He served through the entire war and returned to make good his promise. In 1782 when she was nineteen and he thirty-five he

married his first love, and they set up housekeeping in Bedford where he established a leather goods store and shoe business. This was probably the happiest day of both lives. They reared a family of nine children, all born at Bedford with the exception of the youngest son, John Moses Hess, born at Hopetown, Ohio. She is pictured as a noble woman, a loving mother, a quiet sedate widow (she was a widow for forty-nine years), a staunch Presbyterian, very devoted to her church, while living in Franklinton (now Columbus) Ohio. We shall have more to say of her life there later as a widow.

GEORGE BALSER HESS AS A SOLDIER OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Several references have already been made to our ancestor's service in the Revolutionary War. He served as a private in the American Revolution, in the army of General George Washington. He was in the battles of Brandywine, Schuylkill, Cowpens, Chads Ford, White Plains and others. He was with Washington at the retreat and crossing of the Delaware River and heard Washington's famous saying, "God will build us a bridge before morning." Near dawn the Delaware froze thick enough that his small and tattered army crossed on the ice to the other side to reinforcements and safety. Later Balser was taken prisoner by the British. An article written by Preston Brown says, "General Washington, from his retreat at Fort Lee, on the opposite side of the Hudson River, wept as he witnessed the shocking brutality administered to his soldiers by their British captors. The unhappy prisoners were marched down Manhattan Island to the then City of New York, where they were confined in jails, churches and sugar houses." *The Franklin County History of Ohio* simply says that he was taken prisoner by the Hessians at Long Island and confined in an old sugar house in New York City. Philip Gassler, the mayor of York, said, "I did also see Baltzer Hess often when he was a prisoner to the British, at New York in the late war between Great Britain and America." I speculate that Philip Gassler was also a prisoner in this sugar house, for how else could he have seen him there, and he uses the word often. These men were there many days or weeks with little to eat or drink. They were weak from exposure when taken prisoners, and several hundred died from thirst, star-

vation and exposure. He and, I assume, Gassler were among the fifty who survived, and were finally exchanged, and he again joined Washington's army. The following story has been told many times in the presence of the writer by Martha Hess Rensberger, a great-aunt. Since she was not born for twenty-one years after the death of her grandfather it must have come through her father, Baltzer Hess II. The story is undoubtedly true, and says that our ancestor concealed a gold coin, probably similar to a \$5 gold piece, on his person, with which he bribed the Hessian guards for food and drink. The Hessians were troops hired by the British, and therefore professional soldiers, not fighting for a cause but for money, and the story is both believable and understandable. Also our ancestor spoke German and could converse readily with these guards. They spoke a common language and had common ancestry, which facts may have saved his life. It is also true he was a man of fine and strong physique, was young and hardy, stood six feet four inches and weighed 230 pounds. Under date of May 2, 1947, Mr. Clarence A. Cook, treasurer of the Indiana Society of the Sons of the American Revolution writes that a further search of the Pennsylvania records discloses that our ancestor, after the war and probably while a citizen of Bedford, was a sergeant in Captain Von Heer's Independent Troops of Light Dragoons, and later a captain of a company of Pennsylvania troops. This being true we can claim that rank for him if we wish. This accounts for some DAR and SAR documents giving him the rank of captain. The writer has been to the grave of our ancestor many times in the past forty years, in the Union Cemetery, Columbus, Ohio. The grave is marked for him and his wife, who is buried by his side, by a shaft twelve or fifteen feet high and on this grave the DAR of Columbus has always kept a proper iron marker of their design in honor of his service as a patriot soldier and captain in the American Revolution, and the part he played in bringing about our independence and the birth of a new nation. I have oftentimes thought while at this shrine, if only he could rise and tell us the complete story of his life, of his father and mother, his boyhood, his life as a soldier, his marriage and family at Bedford, his pioneering in Ohio, his break with his old friend Michael Cryder, his last home on the Whetstone River at Franklinton, now

Columbus. We travel this road but once and there is no return ticket, and we, his descendants, must get this information the hard way.

In the entrance of Memorial Hall, located on East Broad Street, in the city of Columbus, Ohio, on a marble plaque is the following inscription:

“First Pioneer Settlers of Franklin County.

Clinton Township.

Balser Hess 1800.

On another marble plaque is inscribed

“Revolutionary Soldiers Buried in Franklin County

Balser Hess

Erected by the Daughters of the American
Revolution, Columbus, Ohio, Chapter.”

BALSER HESS, A CITIZEN OF BEDFORD, PENNSYLVANIA

It is 1782. The War for Independence is over. The armies have disbanded. Great Britain has called her troops home. The professional Hessian soldiers have returned to their families in the German Province of Hesse. Great Britain has given up. In early 1782 King George III appeared and made a speech before Parliament in which, in a voice choked with emotion, he said he was ready to acknowledge the independence of the United States of America. The actual treaty was signed in Paris, April 19, 1783.

Our ancestor returned to York, where he doubtless spent a short time with the family there (it is thought his mother still lived) and with his sister and family just south in the edge of Maryland. You will recall that he spent some time with his sister Maria Eva just prior to his entering Washington's army. There appears to have been a strong tie between this only sister and our ancestor. However, his interests were no longer in York or Frederick County, Maryland, but at Bedford, Pennsylvania, where we have seen him married to Mary Eve Hensel. Marriages in that day, especially among these sturdy determined German pioneers, stood the test “till death doth part”. This mar-

riage was to be one of that type. It was comparatively short, only twenty-four years, but to be dissolved only by death.

The bridegroom was a man of thirty-five and had some money. Their home in nearby Bedford was ready. With the assistance of the Hensel clan, Baltser was ready to start a new business in Bedford. Shortly there was a leather goods store on Richard Street, and a shoe shop operating under Balser Hess, the cordwainer. The records disclose that he lived quietly, worked hard, and followed his trade for the next sixteen years in this location. That he was a good business man, careful in his commitments, always at his place of business and a man of integrity and good judgment, is evidenced by the accumulation of property while a resident of Bedford. In addition to his home and business on February 28, 1791, he acquired two lots on the southeast corner of Pitt and Richard Streets, the main street intersection of Bedford in the county of Bedford. This deed gives his residence as Bedford and occupation cordwainer and the consideration thirty pounds. Seven years later he and his wife Mary Eve joined in a deed for this identical property to one Martin Reilly, giving the same residence and occupation, consideration 500 pounds. It is evident that he improved it, built buildings thereon for his business and a home on the rear. 500 pounds was a lot of money for that time and was equivalent to about \$2500 in our money of that day. In addition he had his personal property and business. This sale was made at the time he left Bedford for Ohio. It was the money with which he purchased land at Columbus, Ohio, four years later. His name also appeared on the personal tax lists at Bedford during these years of residence there. I am indebted to Mrs. Howard Cessna of the Bedford County Historical Society for the above facts.

To spice the story of his life in Bedford, I now pause to give you a short incident which is strictly traditional but undoubtedly true. I again refer to the letter written by Laura Carpenter Finley, "The love of Balser Hess for his Country. He was loyal to his heart's core, and hated a Tory with all the hatred of his patriotic soul. One day one of these gentry came into the store in Bedford and began his treasonable talk. In the midst of it Grandfather stepped from behind the counter and without a word took him by

the seat of the breeches and flung him into the street as you would a puppy. The man lay still for a while, while Grandmother was in terror lest he was dead. Grandfather gave himself no concern about him, and after a while the fellow got up and slunk away." It must be remembered that before, during, and following the Revolutionary War there were those who felt that we would have been better off as a part of the British Empire. While we think they were wrong, many were sincere. One thing is certain; our ancestor had no such belief, and after seven years of fighting for independence, he could not tolerate such talk.

During his residence in Bedford our ancestor was not only building an estate, preparing for his move into the wilds of Ohio, and securing himself against old age, but was rearing a large family. It was here that eight of his nine children were born. Only John Moses, the father of the Hess family of Columbus, was born after the family left Bedford.

This is another epoch in the life of our ancestor. His childhood as an orphan was hard; his life as an apprentice was not easy; his life as a soldier was hard, tough and dangerous; and his last and closing years as a pioneer in the then wilds of Ohio were all hard, trying and short. Is it surprising that he failed by several months to reach the age of sixty? The above period spent in Bedford must have been the happiest of his life. Bedford had certainly been good to him, furnishing a loving wife and devoted mother. Here he gained material wealth and was surrounded by a family of fine, healthy, and happy children. Why was he not content to remain here and enjoy the fruits of his labor? There were possibly several reasons. First, to the west were more worlds to conquer. He was ambitious to have a farm for each of his family of eight children. This could best be secured by going where land could still be entered from the government. Reports of the fertile valley of the Ohio were enticing. Also, he had met and formed a strong friendship with another soldier of the Revolution, Michael Cryder.

Cryder had been to this new land and was convinced of its great possibilities and wealth. He was ready to move west. He, too, had a large family to provide homes for. The die was cast. Cryder had a great influence on Balser Hess. If it was good for Cryder it would be a good move for him.

It was now Ohio or bust for both families. In later years the two families intermarried so often, along with the Carpenter family, that it is difficult for the family genealogist to determine the relationship of their descendants.

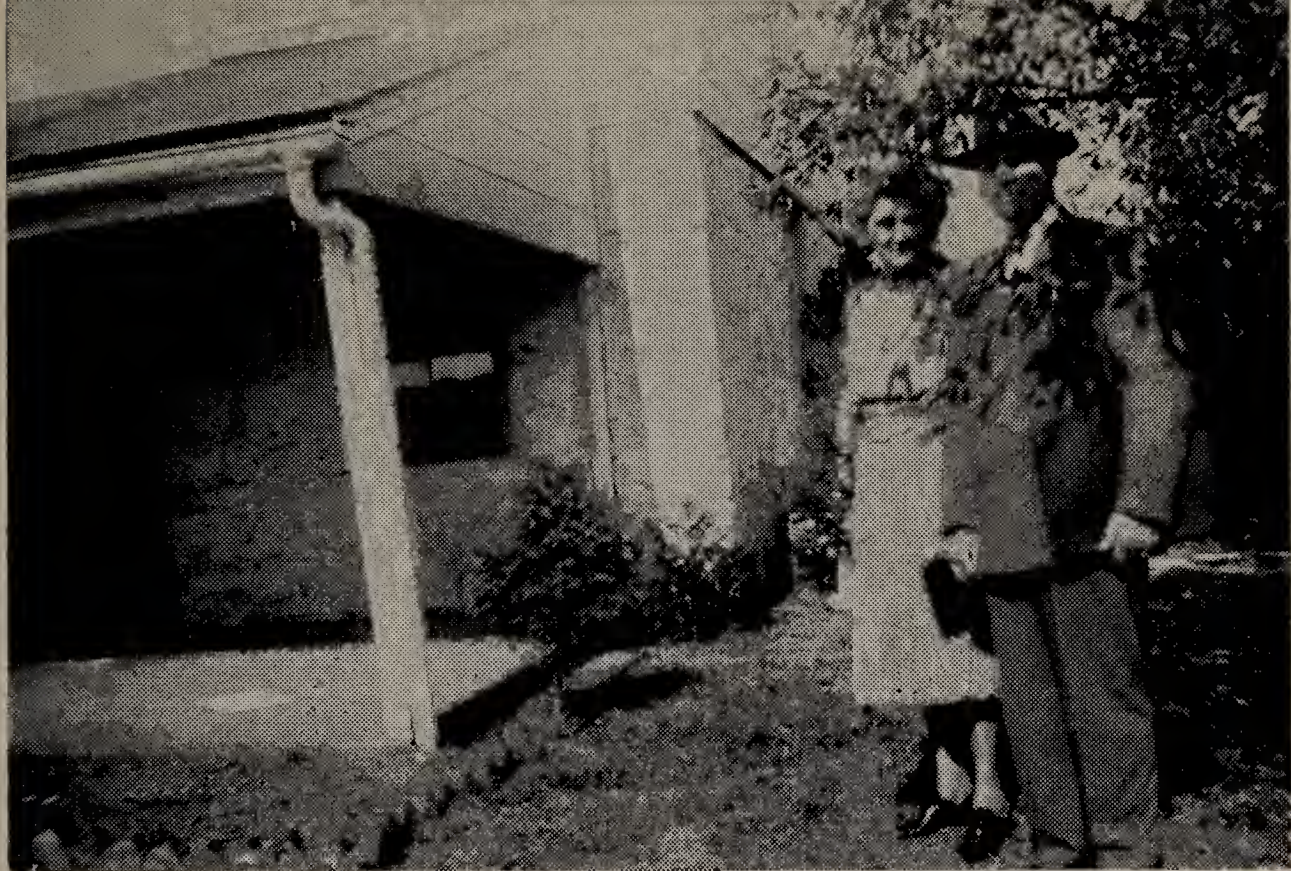
MICHAEL CRYDER (KREIDER)

(Note the name is spelled Cryder, Crider and Kreider; the family is fairly well divided on the spellings, but it is the same name and family.)

Michael Cryder exerted much influence on the life and movements of Balser Hess after they became neighbors in Bedford County, Pennsylvania. Because of this and numerous intermarriages, which make a host of people today descendants of both men, we must take time now to familiarize the reader with this strong and rather unusual character.

Michael Cryder was born July 25, 1742, in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. (Note the two men were nearly the same age as Balser was born at York, Pennsylvania, March 25, 1747.) He was a son of John Jacob Kreider Jr. and a grandson of John Jacob Kreider Sr. who was born in Switzerland in 1681 and had migrated to America soon after the turn of the century, locating, as most of the Swiss and German emigrants did, in Penn's Woods, now Pennsylvania. Here in Lancaster County Michael Cryder grew to manhood. Lancaster, the county seat of Lancaster County, is only about twenty-five miles east of York, the boyhood home of Balser Hess, but it is doubtful if they knew each other as boys. In this same Lancaster County at this same time was a large and rather prominent family named Carpenter. The Carpenters were descendants of one Heinrich Zimmerman, who also was a Swiss emigrant and, after locating in America anglicised his name to Henry Carpenter. That the descendants of John Jacob Kreider Sr. and Henry Carpenter, both Swiss immigrants living in the same county at the turn of the century, should intermarry was inevitable. In fact there were so many intermarriages that the *Carpenter Family History* becomes almost a Kreider family history too.

Michael Cryder (1742-1816) married Susanne Carpenter (1742-1776), a daughter of Daniel Carpenter, the second son of Henry Carpenter, and between 1764 and 1773 had six children. In 1776 Susanne Carpenter Cryder died leaving a brood of small children. (She was the writer's third great-



Michael Cryder homestead, Hopetown, Ohio. Owned by Mr. and Mrs. Lee (Helen) Barnhart. Helen Cryder Barnhart and Frank E. Hess taken 10-18-1949.



Helen Cryder Barnhart and Frank E. Hess, in Hopetown Cemetery, where Michael Cryder was buried in 1816. Taken October 18, 1949.



Frank E. Hess at the grave of Balser Hess (1747-1806) Union Cemetery, Columbus, Ohio. Note D.A.R. Marker at left.

grandmother, the grandmother of Sarah Immel Hess, wife of Baltzer Hess II.) As was the custom in Bible times, when a marriage was dissolved by death and there were unmarried brothers or sisters of the deceased, the survivor of the union was expected to marry a brother or sister as the case might be. Whether Michael Cryder was religious or was aware of this custom, I do not know, but I do know that he married Susanne's sister (Sarah) Salome (1753-1820) who was eleven years younger, and they had five children by 1786. This was a most happy arrangement, as the second wife was the same blood as the first and was blood relation to the first set of children. Being their aunt and stepmother, she had a keen interest in their future, showed no favoritisms and doubtless made a good step-mother as well as mother. This kept the two sets of children of exactly the same blood, as all had the same four grandparents.

THE FORNEYS

It might be well to note here that one of the four grandparents of this brood of eleven young Cryders was Magdalena Forney, wife of their grandfather Daniel Carpenter above mentioned. Daniel's brother, Henry Carpenter, had been sent back to Switzerland by the family to visit the family there, tell them of the wonders of the New World across the Atlantic, and, incidentally, to study medicine. On his return to America after several years' absence he brought along an old family of neighbors named Forney. There may have been method in his madness. Henry married Susan Forney, one of the daughters. Daniel, his brother, married Magdalena, another daughter. A nephew, Jacob Carpenter, married Maria Forney, probably a niece of the first two Forney girls. There have been other Forneys married into the families and descendants of Michael Cryder and Balser Hess. The last the writer has knowledge of is Chloe Shaffer, a daughter of Lydia Hess Shaffer, of the Goshen Hess family, who married Rev. Hiram Forney, a Brethren minister. They lived in the Goshen community most of their lives and were very close friends, in addition to being relatives, of the writer's family. Hiram was probably of this same Forney family or closely related thereto. All eleven children of Michael Cryder were grandchildren of Magdalena Forney, and all the many descendants of Henry Carpenter were descendants of her sister Susan.

MICHAEL CRYDER, THE PIONEER

Michael Cryder was a frontiersman and adventurer. He had much of the Daniel Boone spirit for adventure mixed with an excellent head for business. He was a many-sided man—a farmer, a builder, a promoter, a miller and a merchant. He wanted to be in the front rank of each western wave of migration. His first western move seems to have been from the old ancestral home of the Carpenters, Forneys and Kreiders, to Huntingdon on the Juniata River about 150 miles west and a little north. He was one of the first to build a house in Huntingdon, and then followed by building a mill on the river near the town and for several years was one of its most prominent citizens. He seems to have been a master at the building of flatboats which he used to market the products of his mills, of which he built several during his lifetime. Speaking of his activities while living in Huntingdon I now quote from the *History of the Carpenter Family*, page 80, "It was he who built the first flatboat, then loaded it with flour and pork, and ran it in the spring flood down the Juniata River to the Susquehanna, and thence to Baltimore City, to the great astonishment and satisfaction of all the mercantile community, who in honor of the event called a public meeting and gave him a grand reception; and also a purse of money for his successful navigation." Another thing that must have happened while here was his contribution to American independence. He is said to have been a patriot and soldier of the American Revolution. The *History of the Carpenter Family*, page 45, lists him as a commissary and frontiersman in the Revolution. We know he was a married man with a large family and many business interests. Many volunteered for service in the Revolution for short periods of three to six months. They would volunteer for fall and winter and hope to get back home for planting and harvesting. This was probably the case with Cryder.

Soon after the close of the war he met Balser Hess, who had married Mary Eve Hensel of Bedford, settled here and opened a leather goods store and shoe shop, and was prospering. There is an old saying, "Misery loves company," and I sometimes wonder if it is not also true of ambition. I believe ambitious and successful men love each other's company. They like the outlook and talk of each other.

They can compare notes as to how success is achieved and gain inspiration for doing things better and tackling bigger jobs. That was the one common trait of these two men. Cryder seemed to have more of the adventurous spirit. He was a plunger. Were he living today he probably would be in the stock market head over heels. Hess was slower and more conservative.

In 1787 Virginia had ceded to the newly formed United States of America all that rich territory which she had claimed and which was known as the Northwest Territory. It comprised the present states of Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois and Wisconsin. The Mississippi River was the western boundary. Mad Anthony Wayne had almost subdued the Indians, and trading spots were dotted over the territory. A few settlers were already locating along the north bank of the Ohio. Wheeling and Marietta were established points. Reports were trickling into Bedford concerning this rich and wonderful country. Cryder and Hess talked it over. Each had a large family. Here was the chance to change their investments to this new country and have a farm for each of their children. Cryder's feet were itching to get going. There were no more worlds to conquer around Bedford, no more Indians to subdue. They needed no new mills built here. Michael Cryder's eyes were set westward. There seems to be reason to believe the tradition that he visited the Ohio country about 1795. He was convinced of its possibilities and future. He returned, disposed of some of his holdings, leaving the plantation, mills and boats with his son Israel in charge, under power of attorney, and moved his large family to Hopetown just north of Chillicothe, Ohio, about the year of 1796. The route was by wagon to Pittsburgh, about one hundred miles, where the Allegheny and Monongahela Rivers converge to form the Ohio River, thence down the Ohio River by flatboat to Portsmouth, Ohio, the site where the Scioto River empties into the Ohio, thence up the Scioto to Chillicothe and Hopetown. There is a story that he stopped in Pittsburgh long enough for him and the older boys to build their own flatboat. It is not difficult to believe if you know Mike. It makes little difference whether he built, bought, or rented one, we know he reached Hopetown. Here he soon established himself in business. I again quote from the *History of the Carpenter Family*. Seymore Carpenter, the author, is relating the stories he heard when

a boy from the lips of his Grandfather Carpenter and his Uncle Daniel Kreider, by the fireside in Lancaster, Ohio, while Uncle Daniel was his school teacher, and pertaining to the subject of this paragraph, Michael Cryder. "If I had been a shorthand writer I could have produced a volume that would have been of much interest to their descendants. Colonel Boquot was the central figure in most of their narratives, and from their standpoint was the greatest Indian fighter the world had ever produced. Next to him in importance stood Michael Kreider, father of Uncle Daniel Kreider and son-in-law of Daniel Carpenter. He was in the fore-front of the movement of the family from Lancaster, Pennsylvania, to Huntingdon on the Juniata. In 1796 he removed to Ross County, Ohio, and there stimulated the commercial interests of the Scioto Valley by repeating what he had done at Huntingdon. He built mills and ran flatboats, laden with produce, mostly flour and pork, the first that were sent out of the Scioto into the Ohio, and thence into the Mississippi and on to New Orleans. You may rest assured that Uncle Daniel and Grandfather did justice to their heroes."

Cryder must have been an asset to the Scioto Valley—one of the men who through vision develop a community, and make it a good place in which to live. But Mike was getting old. This was his last development project, the last time he would build mills, flatboats to carry his products, clear land and build homes for his children. Many of the family had the same urge to conquer, and stayed in Ohio only one generation. Indiana and Illinois lay west, and during the late 1820s and early 1830s many of his children and grandchildren moved west and north. There is a large descendancy in and around Morris, Illinois, and a large Cryder Reunion has been and is still held there every year. His daughter, Sarah Cryder by his first marriage, married *Michael Immell, and her daughter Sarah Immel married Balser Hess II and they settled at Goshen, Indiana, in 1829. They had a large family and a Hess Reunion has been held there each year for fifty years, for the descendants of Balser Hess II. Sarah Immel, the above mentioned, was the writer's great-grandmother Hess, and I have a beautiful enlarged picture of her before me. She was a granddaughter of Mike Cryder. He lived to be seventy-four, a long and

*See postscript, page 128.

useful life for those days; he died in 1816 and is buried at Hopetown near Chillicothe, Ohio. His descendants by eleven children, all born prior to 1786, are now numbered in the thousands. His children are as follows:

By the first wife, Susanna Carpenter

1. Israel Cryder b. 1764; d. 1845; m. Hannah Seivert
2. John Cryder b. 1766; d. 1846; m. Elizabeth.....
m. (2) Fannie Hoover
3. Mary Cryder b. 1768; m.....Kerr
4. Sarah Cryder b. 1769; m. Michael Immel
5. Daniel Cryder b. 1771; d. 1842; m. Salome Carpenter (cousin)
6. Susan Cryder b. 1773; m. Henry Musselman

By the second wife, (Sarah) Salome Carpenter, sister of Susanna

1. Emanuel Cryder b. 1777; d. 1844; m. Mary Eve Hess (1788-1861)
2. Henry Cryder b. 1780; d. 1849; m. Mary Ann Hess (1785-1851)
3. Michael Cryder b. 1782; d. 1830; m. Elizabeth Hess (?)
4. Jacob Cryder b. 1784; d. 1845; m. Rebecca Downs
5. David Cryder b. 1786; d. 1842; m. Margaret Warren

from *History of the Carpenter Family*, page 202.

Patent Deed to Michael Cryder

Deed Record 101, page 186 of the Records of Ross County, Ohio.

Thomas Jefferson

President of the United States of America

To all whom these presents shall come greetings:

Know ye that Michael Cryder of Ross County, Ohio, having deposited in the treasury a certificate of the Register of the Land office at Chillicothe, whereby it appears that he has made full payments for the lot or Section number Six of Township number Eight Range number 21 and fractions of One and Two Sections number Six of Township number One in Range 22 (Washington's Survey) of lands directed to be sold at Chillicothe by the act of Congress "An act providing for the sale of the lands of the United States in the Territory Northwest of the Ohio River and above the mouth of the Kentucky River and of the acts ammenditory of the

same"; there is granted by the United States in pursuance of the above act aforesaid unto the said Michael Cryder the lot or section and fractions of sections of land above described to have and hold the said land lot or section and fractions of sections of land with the appertances unto the said Michael Cryder his heirs and assigns forever.

In Witness Whereof; I have caused these letters to be made Patent and the seal of the United States to be hereunto affixed.

Given under my hand and seal at the City of Washington this 3d day of January in the year of our Lord 1807 and the independence of the United States of America the 31st.
James Madison
Secretary of State
Thomas Jefferson
President

Department of Interior General Land Office

Washington, D. C., November 23, 1886

I; S. M. Stockslager acting commissioner of the General Land Office do hereby certify that the annexed copy of Patent Deed in favor of Michael Cryder, founded on Chilli-cothe Unit Credit System Certificate No. 300 is a true and literal Exemplication from the records in this office.

In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and caused the seal of this office to be affixed at the City of Washington on the day and year above written.

Received November 30th, 1886

S. M. Stockslager

Recorded December 1, 1886 (seal)

Acting Commissioner
of General Land Office

WILL OF MICHAEL CRYDER
Ross County, Ohio, Probate Court
File A 1239

In the name of God Amen:

I, Michael Cryder Sr. of the county of Ross, State of Ohio, being of sound mind and memory; blessed by God for the same, and calling to mind the uncertainty of all worldly things, do this 31st day of May, year of our Lord 1813, make this my last will and testament in manner and form following;

First; after my decease I desire that all my past debts be paid by my executor hereafter named.

Secondly; I will and devise that my eldest son Israel Cryder should have the plantation that he now lives on in

Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania, at \$4000.00 current money of the United States, to him and his heirs and assigns forever.

Thirdly; I will and devise that John Cryder of Ross County, State of Ohio, should have the place he now lives on according to the manner that the same is laid off to him for the sum of \$1500.00 current money of the United States, to him and his heirs and assigns forever.

Fourthly; I will and devise that Daniel Cryder of Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania, shall have the full amount of a plantation which he sold in said County and State and in case the same has not sold for \$1500.00 the deficiency shall be paid to him, his heirs or executor or administrator by my executor hereinafter named.

Fifthly; I will and devise that Emanuel Cryder of Ross County, State of Ohio, should have the place that he now lives on according to the manner that the same is laid off to him for the sum of \$1500.00 current money of the United States, to him his heirs and assigns forever.

Sixthly; I will and devise that Henry Cryder of Ross County, State of Ohio, shall have the place that he now lives on according to the manner that the land is laid off to him for the sum of \$1500.00 current money of the United States to him his heirs and assigns forever.

Seventhly; I will and devise that Michael Cryder Junior of Ross County, State of Ohio, should have the place that he now lives on according to the manner that the same is laid off to him for the sum of \$1500.00 current money of the United States to him his heirs and assigns forever.

Eighthly, I will and devise that Jacob Cryder of Ross County, State of Ohio, shall have the place that he now lives on according to the manner that the same is laid off to him for the sum of \$1500.00 current money of the United States to him his heirs and assigns forever.

Ninthly; I will and devise that David Cryder of Ross County, State of Ohio, should have the place he now lives on according to the manner that the same is laid off to him for the sum of \$1500.00 current money of the United States to him his heirs and assigns forever.

Tenthly; I will and devise that my daughter Polly Kerr of Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania, should have out of my

estate the sum of \$500.00 to be paid to her or her heirs by my executor hereafter named. (Note. The name Polly is the nickname for Mary, which was the name of the eldest daughter.)

Eleventhly; I will and devise that Jacob Immel of Ross County, State of Ohio, shall have \$100.00 current money of the United States; also Israel Immel and John Immel of said County and State I will and devise that they and each of them shall have \$100.00; also that Sarah Hess shall have \$100.00 current money as aforesaid to be paid out of my estate by my executor hereafter named. (Note. These are the children of his deceased daughter Sarah.)

Twelfth; I will and devise that Benjamin Musselman and Michael Musselman shall each receive out of my estate the sum of \$250.00 current money of the United States to be paid by my executor hereafter named. (Note. These are the children of his deceased daughter Susan.)

Thirteenth; I will and devise that my executor hereafter named shall sell all the lands I may hold in Pennsylvania at the time of my decease, except such lands as are already bequeathed by this will, out of the proceeds of which the foregoing legacies are to be paid by my executors.

Thirteenth; I will and devise that after all the debts and legacies are paid by my executors the surplus monies that may remain in their hands shall be equally divided between my sons, Israel Cryder, John Cryder, Daniel Cryder, Emanuel Cryder, Henry Cryder, Michael Cryder, Jacob Cryder and David Cryder to them and their heirs.

Fourteenth; It is my will and desire that in case it should please Almighty God that I should die before my beloved wife Sarah Cryder that she should have the use of the house and all that belongs to the plantation whereon I now live as well as her third part of my whole estate during her natural life, at her death the same to be disposed of by my executors in manner as before mentioned, and lastly I do hereby appoint my son Israel Cryder of Huntingdon County, State of Pennsylvania and my son Henry Cryder of Ross County and State of Ohio, my executors, to this my last will and testament, hereby revoking all former wills by me made

and ratifying and confirming this and no other to be my last will and testament.

In witness whereof the said Michael Cryder Sr. have hereunto set my hand and seal the date first herein written.

Signed sealed published and declared by the said Michael Cryder Sr. to be his last will and testament in the presence of us. Michael Cryder Sr. (seal)

John McDougal

Margaret McDougal

CODISIL

I, Michael Cryder Sr. of Ross County and State of Ohio do this fifth day of January 1816 make and publish this codisil to my last will and testament in manner following and whereas in and by my last will and testament I have given and bequeathed to my son John Cryder a certain tract of land which he now lives on, I do hereby order and declare that my will is that only the sum of \$1.00 be paid to and unto him in full of said legacy I have as aforesaid given and bequeathed unto him and that the remaining part of said legacy be given to and paid to my grandson Benjamin Cryder, son of the aforesaid John Cryder and lastly it is my desire that this my present codisil be annexed to and made a part of my last will and testament to all intents and purposes.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 5th day of January in the year of our Lord 1816.

Signed sealed and published and declared by the above named Michael Cryder Sr. as a Codisil to be annexed to his last will and testament in the presence of Michael Cryder Sr. (seal)

Jacob Weider

Abraham Coleman

PROOF OF WILL AND CODISIL

The last will and testament with codisil annexed of Michael Cryder Sr., deceased.

May Term 1816—proved and ordered to be recorded, etc.

Recorded Liber B folio 1205 1816

Huntingdon County, State of Penn.

Dear brother:

I received your letter dated August 6, 1816 informs me that you cannot get letters of administration without my consent; It is my will and desire that my brother Hennery Cryder shall have full power to act as executor of my father's last will and testament. From your affectionate brother

Israel Cryder

September 4, 1816

BOND OF HENRY CRYDER, EXECUTOR

Known all men by these Presents; that we Henry Cryder, Michael Cryder, David Cryder and Jacob Cryder all of Ross County State of Ohio are held and firmly bound unto James McClintick, Treasurer of county aforesaid, or his successors in office in the penal sum of \$2000.00 current money, to the payment of which well and truly to be made to the said treasurer or his successors in office. We bind ourselves our heirs executors, administrators jointly and severally firmly by their presents. Witness our hands and seals this April 30th, 1817.

Whereas the court of Common Pleas, has this day granted letters pertaining to the above bond, Henry Cryder on the last will and testament of Michael Cryder Sr. deceased, the same having been heretofore proven and ordered to be recorded of said county. Now the condition of the above obligation is such that if the above bonded Henry Cryder, executor as aforesaid shall and will faithfully perform all the duties required of him by law, then this obligation to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

Signed sealed and delivered
in the presence of the Court.
Attest

Henry Cryder (seal)
Michael Cryder (seal)
David Cryder (seal)
Jacob Cryder (seal)

Humphrey Fullerton

Letters of administration were issued
to Henry Cryder to administer on the
estate of Michael Cryder Sr., deceased.

By John Thompson } Pres.
Isaac Cook } associate
James Armstrong } Judges.

of the Common Pleas Court of Ross County, State of Ohio,

in accordance with above will on the 30th day of April 1817.

Signed by

Humphrey Fullerton

Clerk of Common Pleas Court

In October, 1949, Mrs. Hess and I spent a week in Franklin, Delaware, and Ross Counties, Ohio, and Bedford and Huntingdon Counties, Pennsylvania, copying records of the Hess, Cryder, and Immell families as they left records in these counties.

In the city of Bedford we copied the deed to Balser Hess from John Penn the Younger and saw the property which he owned on the northeast Corner of Richard and Pitt Streets and from which spot he conducted a shoe shop and leather goods store from 1782 to 1798. This has been told more fully under the title of "Balser Hess, a Citizen of Bedford."

In Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania, we found four deeds from 1778 to 1801 to Michael Cryder which totaled 1171 and $\frac{3}{4}$ acres and numerous lots in the town of Huntingdon, Pennsylvania:

DR-B-p-517 Chas Kelly to Michael Cryder 7-14-1778	300	A
DR-F-L p 215 James Chalkey to Michael Cryder 8-7-1793	300 $\frac{3}{4}$	A
DR-F-L p 271 Lewis Lowman to Michael Cryder 9-2-1797	345	A
DR-H-I p 114 Benjamin Elliot and Sarah to Michael Cryder 10-17-1801	226	A
Total	1171 $\frac{3}{4}$	A

DR-F-I p 304 Huntingdon County	Covers numerous lots in the town now the city of Huntingdon
DR-F-I p 308 Huntingdon County	
DR-B-1 p 384 Bedford County	

This land was located on the Juniata River and it was on this same land that he built grist mills, saw mills and flat-boats to market his produce. When he went to Ross County, Ohio, in 1796 he left his eldest son Israel, who was then thirty-two years old, in charge of his property in Pennsylvania. On June 6, 1797, he gave son Israel a power of attorney to legally handle his property and business. It is recorded in DR-GI p 153 of the records of Huntingdon County, and gives said Israel every conceivable power, to buy and sell land in his name, to conduct the entire business, and

ratifying everything said Israel does. He had explicit confidence in this eldest son. His second son Daniel and eldest daughter Polly (Mary) remained in Pennsylvania and both were married (See paragraph 4th and 10th of will). They and their families probably helped Israel in the many-sided activities on this large plantation. These three children were still in Pennsylvania when his will was written. According to the *Huntingdon County History* by Africa, Israel Cryder was a man of great wealth in his own name, a leader of the community, and left a large descendancy.

Michael Cryder was a wealthy man before he left Pennsylvania for Ross County, Ohio. With his affairs in competent hands, he was free to devote his later years to developing another business empire on the Scioto River in Ohio. To understand his will it is almost necessary, and certainly enlightening, to know of his large holdings in both states and why he wished an executor in each state. Let us now follow the family to Ohio and scan the record there. A copy of the patent deed, properly certified to, and acknowledged and signed by Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States, is found on page 37 and seems to cover two sections of land in Ross County. On the *Land Office Plat Book*, which is kept in the safe in the Ross County Historical Museum, in Chillicothe, Ohio, for safe keeping and is a valuable and unusual record, Col. David McKell, president of the society, assisted us and showed us the Michael Cryder entries. They total 1276.32 acres, which is just a fraction short of being two full sections. This is the land disposed of in the foregoing will and is helpful in understanding the provisions thereof. It includes the land on which Balser Hess settled and homesteaded and then procrastinated in entering, and over which the two men had trouble and parted company.

Let us now examine the will which is in an excellent state of preservation and is written with a goose quill pen. It was customary in that day to give the real estate to the sons if the maker had such sons. Michael had eight. He started with the eldest Israel, giving him the plantation on which he lived in Pennsylvania valued at \$4000.00. Then he took up the second son and so on down to David the youngest, and eighth son. Each got land located in Pennsylvania or Ross County, Ohio.

He then took up the eldest daughter Mary, who stayed

in Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania. He called her Polly, which professional genealogists say is the nickname for Mary. He gave her \$500.00 cash, under the name of Polly Kerr. The word Kerr has been interpreted as Hess by previous researchers. Mrs. Hess and I interpreted it Kerr. We looked up the copy of the will in the will record, and the scribe who copied the will when probated certainly interpreted this word as Kerr. We then called Mrs. H. M. Rankin, whom we found doing research work for a client. She is a professional genealogist and is the wife of Hon. H. M. Rankin, Judge of the Circuit Court of Washington Court House, Ohio. She studied this will with us, said Polly was the nickname for Mary and that there was positively no doubt it was Polly Kerr and not Hess. The *History of the Carpenter Family* gives the names of all eleven of the children of Michael Cryder in the exact order that they are named in the will, but says Mary married a Hess. We think this must be error. The *Parthemore Genealogy*, page 169, says Mary Crider married Michael Immell. We think this is also an error. Her sister Sarah next in age to her did marry an Immell and is taken up in the following paragraph of the will. Mary (Polly) stayed in Pennsylvania with her brothers Israel and Daniel, as the will plainly states.

Let us now examine the next paragraph which is the 11th. The next daughter would be Sarah if he follows the same pattern of taking them according to age. Unfortunately, this daughter is not mentioned by name, and we assume is dead. In her stead he names Jacob Immell, Israel Immell, John Immell and Sarah Hess and gives each \$100.00, so they must be grandchildren. We know Sarah Immell had the above brothers and that in 1809 she married Balser Hess II of Columbus, Ohio and was married four years prior to the making of the will. Our case seems to be further strengthened by the fact that she was the only daughter and was named Sarah after her mother. Her mother Sarah Cryder was born in 1769 and was just the right age to be the mother of the four Immells, Jacob her eldest being born in 1790, and daughter Sarah Hess in 1792. Michael Cryder's will certainly implies that his second daughter Sarah was the mother of the four Immell grandchildren, instead of his first daughter Mary, and we prefer to accept the will as authentic instead of the histories and genealogies mentioned above.

THE FIFTH AND LOST IMMELL

A careful examination of paragraphs Tenth, Eleventh and Twelfth, reveal a discrepancy in the amounts willed to the three daughters. Paragraph Tenth gives his eldest daughter Mary Kerr \$500. Paragraph Eleventh gives the heirs of his deceased daughter Sarah Immell, \$400. Paragraph Twelfth gives the heirs of his deceased daughter Susan \$500. (See *History of the Carpenter Family* for the names of the last two daughters.) Why didn't he give the four Immells \$125 each and keep the amount given each daughter the same, \$500?

There has been a story in the Immell-Hess families that there was a fifth Immell boy, who was the oldest and who left home as a boy and became a soldier, adventurer, Indian fighter and fur trader, and was lost to the family. If he was older than Jacob, who was born in 1790, he was probably born about 1787 or 1788. His mother (Sarah) was born in 1769 and fits into the picture perfectly. Documentary proof has been lacking.

At Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, about 1804 a Michael Immell enlisted in the U. S. Army, and was stationed at St. Louis, Missouri, receiving several promotions and a commission and resigning November 30, 1808. (Office Adjutant General of U. S. Army, Washington, D.C.) Following this he became a fur trader and later had charge of the business of Cabanna and Company engaged in fur trading. He remained on the Missouri River, where this company operated till 1823, when he was sent on an expedition up the Yellowstone River where he was killed in a battle with the Black-foot Indians on May 31, 1823. Major O. Fallon, United States Agent, has the following to say of Michael Immell: "Immell has been a long time on this river, first as an officer in the U. S. Army, since as a trader of some distinction. He was in some ways an extraordinary man; he was brave; uncommonly large and of great muscular strength, and when timely apprised of danger, was a host in himself." (See *Journal of a Fur-Trading Expedition on the Upper Missouri, 1812-13* by John C. Lutting and published in 1920, p. 13, for a full account of Michael Immell.)

In 1813 when Michael Cryder wrote his will this Immell boy, son of his second daughter, Sarah, deceased, was lost to the family. However, his ultimate return was always

awaited, and possible. Michael Cryder simply held out \$100.00 from this daughter's share, probably intending to give it to this grandson by a codicil to his will when he returned. The foregoing story of the fifth Immell synchronizes beautifully and explains the discrepancy in paragraph Eleventh of this will. It should be added that Chambersburg, the place of enlistment, is near the old home of the Immells, Cryders and Hesses in Pennsylvania.

The above documentary evidence is credited to Miss Daisy Immell of Blair, Wisconsin. The lost Immell was a brother to her grandfather Jacob Immell and a brother to the writer's great-grandmother Sarah Immell (Hess) both mentioned in above will.

The last daughter Susan was born in 1773 and would have been extremely young to have been the mother of the four Immells. She is taken up in paragraph 12th. Again he does not mention her by name and we assume again that she is dead, for in her stead he names Benjamin Musselman and Michael Musselman and gives each \$250.00 which totals \$500.00, the pattern he has followed in disposing of the three daughters or their heirs, and these two boys must have been grandsons. Other records disclose their father was Henry Musselman.

There seems to be lack of documentary proof that the name of the Immell who married the second daughter was Michael. I searched the deed records, will records, and tax lists of all above counties and could not find a Michael Immell listed, that lived at the proper time to have been the father of the above Immells. Until better proof is found I shall accept the Parthemore and Carpenter Histories which say his name was Michael.*

This will is certainly methodical in its arrangement, consistent in the way he divides his estate, and the provisions for the widow. The picking of a son in each state to administer shows good judgment. The codicil (and I spell it as he did) is most interesting. Read it and then speculate on what may have happened between him and his son John, between the making of the will and the making of the codicil. He minces no words. Son John is out. His grandson, Benjamin Cryder, son of John, gets the inheritance. When I

* See postscript, page 128.

read this codisil I turned to Mrs. Hess and said, "Well, I'll bet John was not on the bond of the executor." The bond of Henry Cryder accepted by the court was signed by his brothers Michael Jr., David and Jacob. The reader will note by his letter that Israel declined to serve and asked that his brother Hennery *be* appointed as the sole executor of his father's estate. He was too busy with his own affairs to come 500 miles to act in this trust.

The will and codisil were probably drawn by a scribe, as Michael Cryder was seventy-one when he signed the will and seventy-four when he signed the codisil. However, he signed the same and was a good writer. His signature indicates a strong character. He had accumulated much of this world's goods. We think we have listed most of his real estate, about two sections in each state of Pennsylvania and Ohio, on which real estate he held much personal property and improvements. We may have missed some in the search. The will disposes of enough in 1813 that if translated into dollars of today he would have been a millionaire.

On October 19, 1949, Mrs. Lee Cryder Barnhart, who was reared at Hopetown and is now of Chillicothe and a descendant of Michael Cryder, went with Mrs. Hess and me on a tour of the Hopetown community, and the Hopetown cemetery where Michael Cryder was buried. This cemetery is largely filled with descendants of Cryder. More than half the markers bear the names of Cryder, Immell, Muselman, etc. A marker could not be found for Michael Cryder. Several slabs were broken down and some covered with earth. The markings were so weather-beaten they could not be interpreted. This is not surprising as he was buried there 134 years ago. Mrs. Barnhart showed us over the two sections of land he entered. Her husband and she own 140 acres of the original entry and this is the only part still held by a member of the family, and she believes the ownership to be continuous in the Cryder family. Two rooms of the farmhouse are of stone. This is supposed to be the original home of Michael Cryder. At least it is on the same spot. Balser Hess is supposed to have lived just north or west of this spot while a resident of Hopetown. It is about seven miles north of Chillicothe, county seat of Ross County, and for a time the state capital. We took several pictures of the home and cemetery.

BALSER HESS MOVES TO HOPETOWN, OHIO

Let us now return to Balser Hess in his comfortable home and good business in Bedford, Pennsylvania. Michael Cryder and family were already located in Hopetown, Ohio. It was dull since the bustling Cryders had gone. Balser had one mission to perform before going into the wilds of Ohio. He had to pay his last visit to his family back in York. He made this his last trip to his boyhood home and friends at York. It is doubtful if his mother was still living, but possible, as he was only fifty years old. It was on this trip that he obtained document two to which the reader was introduced early in this account. The signers were all old neighbors. He had been gone for fifteen years and prior to that was in the Revolutionary Army for nearly eight years during which period his time in York was merely visits. Many of the old friends were now gone. He visited in the homes of these signers. He knew he was going into a new land where, outside the family of Michael Cryder, he would meet all strangers. He wanted this certificate of good character to show his new friends and neighbors. He may have visited his sister's family in Frederick County, Maryland. There is a legend that he did. It was also the last time he would ever see any of these relatives. In fact, they were never mentioned after the family went to Ohio and therefore were completely lost. After this York trip he returned to Bedford, and it is believed that he made a trip alone to Hopetown to see for himself these wonderful opportunities, for Balser Hess was a cautious man. He was convinced. Again Mike Cryder turned on his charm and influence. In early 1798 he sold his home and business block to Martin Reilly for 500 pounds, which is about \$2500 when stated in dollars. He sold his sixteen year old established business and most of his personal property and started the same trek that Mike Cryder had made two years before, 100 miles over to Pittsburg, down the Ohio to Portsmouth, up the Scioto River to Chillicothe and Hopetown.

It must have been some trip, as all the eight Hess children were still small. The eldest, Daniel, was fourteen, and they were all ages to a baby. All survived. It must have been a great day when this family rolled in on the migrating Cryders. They had been here only two years and the accommodations were anything but luxurious. But there was re-

joicing in this reunion of the two families. I imagine there was a great fuss made over these small Hess children by the older Cryder children. The Cryders had several grown children by this time. In fact, the youngest was David and he was twelve, the same age as the third of the Hess family, Balser II. The next five Hesses were all girls, not much help in felling trees, building log cabins, splitting rails, and building fences. All worked hard and soon, with the help of the Cryders, a cabin was completed and the Hesses located on the adjoining land. The Cryders were probably glad to help so that they would again have a place to lay their own heads, so great was the pressure for housing. Hospitality was not only a word in that day but a virtue to be lived. We, their descendants, know too little about it. We have neither the time nor the disposition to practice it. We think we must always kill the fatted calf every time we entertain.

An act of Congress dated May 10, 1800, provided for the entry of land in this new Northwest Territory. Balser Hess most certainly intended to take advantage of this act, but it seems was slow in doing so. Probably he was too busy clearing more land for crops and cultivating the same. The record at Chillicothe, Ohio, shows the following entries: May 14, 1801, Michael Cryder applied for entry of 760.91 acres of land being Sec. 6, range 21 fractional Sec. 1 and 2 adjoining Township 1, Range 22, Washington's survey and produces the receiver's receipt, dated May 14, 1801, for \$140.00 being the 1/20th part of the purchase money of the tract. This means that the tract of considerably over one section (a section is 640 acres) was to cost \$2900 when fully paid for. On the margin of the entry it shows this land was pre-empted under sec. 16 of the law of May 10, 1800. Receipt of the treasurer of the United States for \$700.45 is one-half in full of the first installment of the purchase money for the section and fraction of a section and is dated June 3, 1801.

On the plat book in the Ross County Museum at Chillicothe almost two sections were indicated and, while above legal description may not be too clear, when checked it included the land on which Balser Hess had settled three years before and had cleared and erected a log cabin, and later other buildings and fences. When Balser went to Chillicothe shortly after this date and attempted to enter his land and

make the necessary down payment, it must have been one of the shocks of his life to find that his old friend and benefactor, Mike Cryder, had already entered the same and had made the down payment and the first installment payment. Can you fancy the gloom in the Hess household when the father returned to report this to his good wife Mary Eve? What did it mean? It meant that Cryder owned the land and improvements made thereon. Any further improvements would be for Mike and most certainly not for Hess. Could he buy Mike out? If not, it meant moving. Whether it was treachery on the part of Mike or not we shall never know. Both men had money and either could have met all the requirements for entry. It may be Hess thought he owned the land by virtue of settling on it and was not aware of the legal steps until it was too late. Mike Cryder was certainly more alert and it is possible that when he went to enter his claim he found Hess had not protected his own claim and since anybody was free to go in and make the entry payments it had better be he than some entire outsider or stranger. At any rate he had the money and entered Balser Hess's tract in his own name and met all the legal requirements. If at that time he intended to sell it to Hess on a friendship basis we shall never know, for no such sale was consummated.

The above incident caused a break in the long and close friendship of over a quarter of a century. Tradition says that when the facts became known to him, he recalled the Bible story of the land trouble between Abram and his nephew Lot, and it is said he told Michael Cryder at the end of their conference, "Let there be no strife between thee and me, I will find a home elsewhere," and he proceeded to locate on the Whetsone River, a tributary of the Scioto. If true, and I accept it as truth, it is a beautiful spirit and portrays a truly great character.

So parted the two old friends in the evening of life for both. Balser Hess was to live less than five years in his new found home, and Michael Cryder less than fifteen years. It is doubtful if they ever saw each other after that day of parting. The two families kept in touch and there certainly was no ill feeling in the next generation for there were several intermarriages. In 1809 Balser Hess II married Sarah Immell, a granddaughter of Michael Cryder through

his daughter Sarah who had married Michael Immell, and two of Cryder's sons by his second marriage married daughters of Balser Hess; Mary Ann Hess married Henry Cryder and Mary Eve married Emanuel Cryder.

BALSEP HESS MOVES TO FRANKLINTON,
NOW COLUMBUS, OHIO

In late 1801 or early 1802 Balser Hess moved his family from Hopetown, Ohio, to Franklinton on the Whetstone River, now the Olentangy River, at a point just north of the junction of the Whetstone and Scioto Rivers. It was a distance of about fifty miles straight north. Franklinton had been started in 1797 at the junction of the two rivers and a few families were already located there. Columbus was not started till 1812. There was a road broken from Hopetown to Franklinton, through the Scioto Valley, and is now U. S. Highway #23. Along this road struggled the Hesses, mostly children, with their ox team and cart, horses, cows, pigs, and chickens, tools and equipment. They must have presented a motley sight.

Leaving the improvements made on the Hopetown farm to Michael Cryder, they took all their possessions and a determined resolution to do it all over again. It was a two day trip to Franklinton where they found friends. The farm they selected was three and one-half miles north of Franklinton. No road had been opened. No wagon had ever passed that way; only hunters on foot. Balser was getting old for that day, but his spirit was undaunted. He and the two older boys, Daniel eighteen and Balser Jr. 16, cut their way through the thick unbroken forest on the west side of the Whetstone River, to an elevated spot about one hundred yards west of the river and about two hundred yards north of what is now Lane Avenue in the north part of Columbus, Ohio. Here they cleared the first acre of land and built the first log cabin in Clinton Township, Franklin County, Ohio. This is the Hess homestead of Columbus, Ohio, and to this day is oftentimes referred to as the pioneer farm of Clinton Township. The record shows that on October 3, 1802, Joseph Vance, Attorney for Jonathan Dayton, gave a deed for 400 acres of land in this township to Balser Hess, consideration \$800.00 or \$2.00 an acre. This was the original entry and I assume Jonathan Dayton, a general in the Revolutionary



Balser Hess Homestead, Columbus, Ohio, 1800-1950.
James Hermes Hess 1839-1889 — Builder of present house.
Eliza Jane Kenny Hess 1844-1918, wife. Mary E. Hess 1872-, daughter and owner.



Northeast corner of Pitt and Blanchard Streets, Bedford, Pennsylvania, taken October 20, 1949. Site of the home and leather goods store 1782-1798 of Balser Hess. Sold to Martin Reilly in 1798 when the family moved to Ohio. Frank E. Hess in front.

War, after whom Dayton, Ohio, was named, was the land commissioner for this region.

GRANDMOTHER HESS TAKES OVER

It is said Grandmother Mary Eve, Balser's good wife, was not so ready to take everybody's word as was her good and honest husband. She was resolved that the Hopetown incident should not be repeated for the land on the Whetstone. Therefore, she hurried their eldest son Daniel on horseback to Chillicothe, fifty miles distant, with this deed to have it properly recorded as soon after it was executed as was possible. Mrs. Catherine Carpenter Forshee, a daughter of Susan Hess (wife of Israel Carpenter) said her mother patched her brother Daniel's trousers for him to wear to Chillicothe to get the deed recorded for the Balser Hess farm and that he got it on record just in time. And it has stood the test of time, for today this land is still occupied by the Hesses, after nearly 150 years. It probably should be noted that Ohio State University, which is located just south of the farm, now owns much of the original farm of 400 acres and it is a part of their agricultural program. Miss Mary E. Hess, daughter of James Hess, lives on the homestead and holds a life lease on the five acres on which the last house was erected by her father in the 1880s. It is on this spot that the writer lived some time forty years ago with the widow of James Hess and daughter Mary and attended Ohio State University. The next farm north is occupied by the Misses Elizabeth and Flora Hess, daughters of Uncle Mose Hess, a brother of James. They have also sold their farm to the University and hold life leases on the homestead. The next farm north, and a part of the original 400 acres, is owned and operated by Anna Latham and her husband Ivan. She is a daughter of Henry R. Hess and a granddaughter of Thomas M. Hess, who was a brother of James and Moses. All were sons of John Moses Hess, youngest son of Balser Hess who entered the same. What a record of continuous ownership! Where can the record be duplicated? The writer has had some experience in examining abstracts but has never seen anything like it for continuous ownership.

The last four years were tempestuous for Balser Hess. He had not married until he was thirty-five and his family was young for a man of his age, therefore they were a respon-

sibility instead of an asset in these pioneer moves. Michael Cryder had a grown family to assist him. I wonder if Balser Hess did not wish many times that he had stayed in Bedford with this family of children, and reaped the harvest of good things in life that he had sown there. But there was no turning back and possibly he never looked back, but always ahead. During these four years the children were rapidly growing up. Daniel was twenty-two, Balser Jr. twenty, and the labor problem was beginning to adjust itself. But, as Elhanan Hess of Goshen said to the writer several years ago when he was in the late 70s and failing health, "Just about the time a man gets ready to really live, he dies." It is all too true, and so it was with our ancestor.

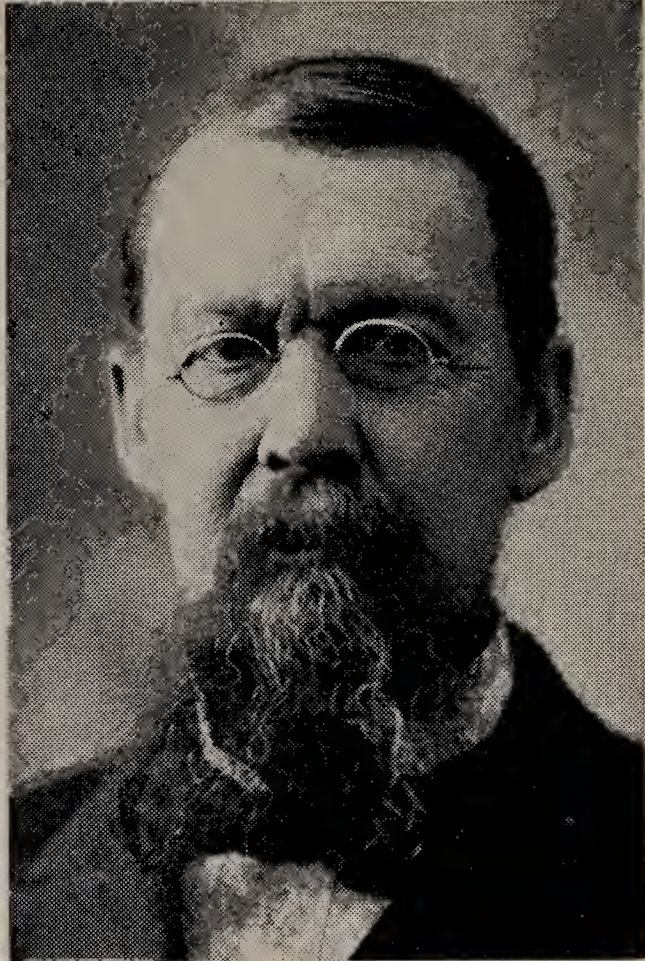
DEATH OF BALSER HESS

Just as the great adventure to the West had begun to look promising, in the fall of 1806 Balser Hess fell ill. There was so much to be done that he had little time to enjoy this last home. His dream of the Ohio home was just beginning to take form. As winter neared he grew steadily weaker. It was apparent that the hard rough-and-tumble life he had lived was taking its toll. It is said he had brain fever or inflammation of the brain, which is a recognized disease of this day that destroys the tissue of the brain. I again quote from the letter of 1890 of Laura Carpenter Finley, "Grandfather Hess died of inflammation of the brain, and my mother (his daughter) remembered seeing him, while yet conscious, rise from his bed and kneel beside it to pray." On December 3, 1806, the ultimate end could be seen. He had the family call in John Williams and Joseph Smart to help him draw a will, while he was still rational and conscious and this will reflects his own thinking and devout Christian character.

Early in the morning of December 27, 1806, twenty-four days after drawing the will, he quietly entered into that rest which he so well earned, and from which no sojourner returns. He was 59 years, 9 months and 2 days old. It was a short life measured in years, but few crowd so much into fifty-nine years of life. He was buried on the north of the farm about one-half mile from the homestead cabin. He was the first one buried there. It was an isolated spot on a knoll, but, as Victor Hugo says at the burial of Fantine in *Les Misérables*, "What difference does it make, for God knows



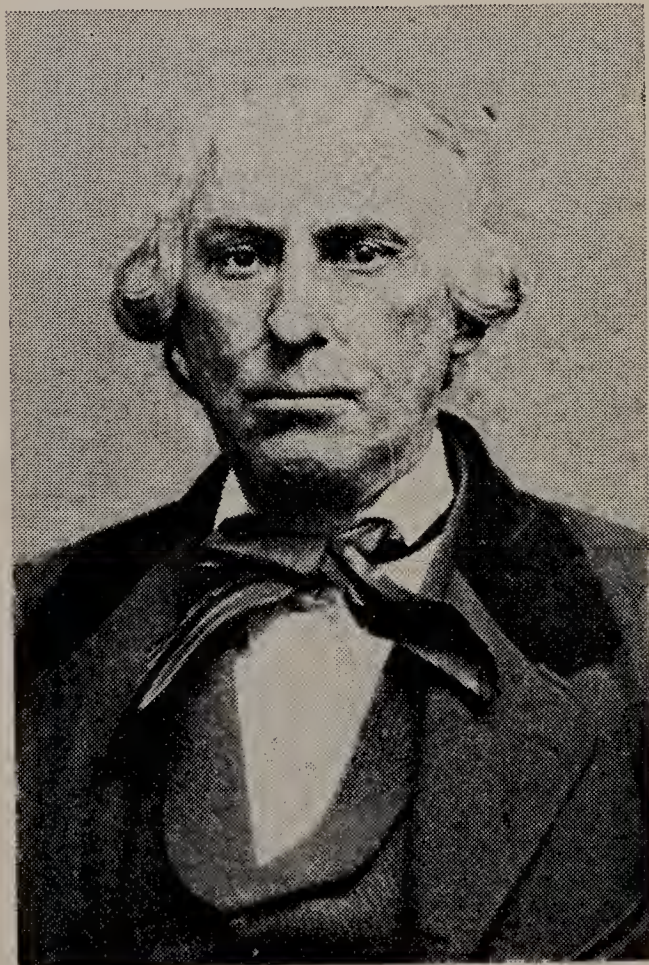
Sarah Gordon Hess. Born 2-12-1801. Married Daniel Hess, Sr., 4-20-1819. Died 1-5-1873. Buried Union Cemetery, Columbus, Ohio.



Rev. Daniel Hess, Jr. Born 10-17-1827, Columbus, Ohio. Died Kirkwood, Georgia. Son of Daniel Hess, Sr. and Sarah Gordon Hess.



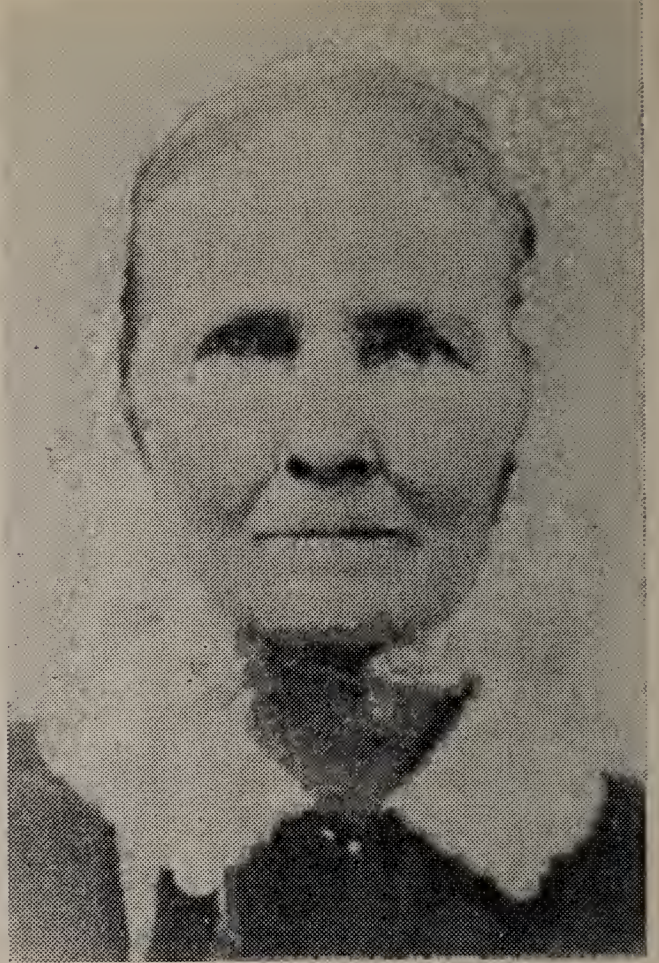
Mary Ann Cryder Mace, 1820-1901, wife of Hiram Mace.



Hiram Mace, 1813-1879. Lived in Chillicothe, Ohio.



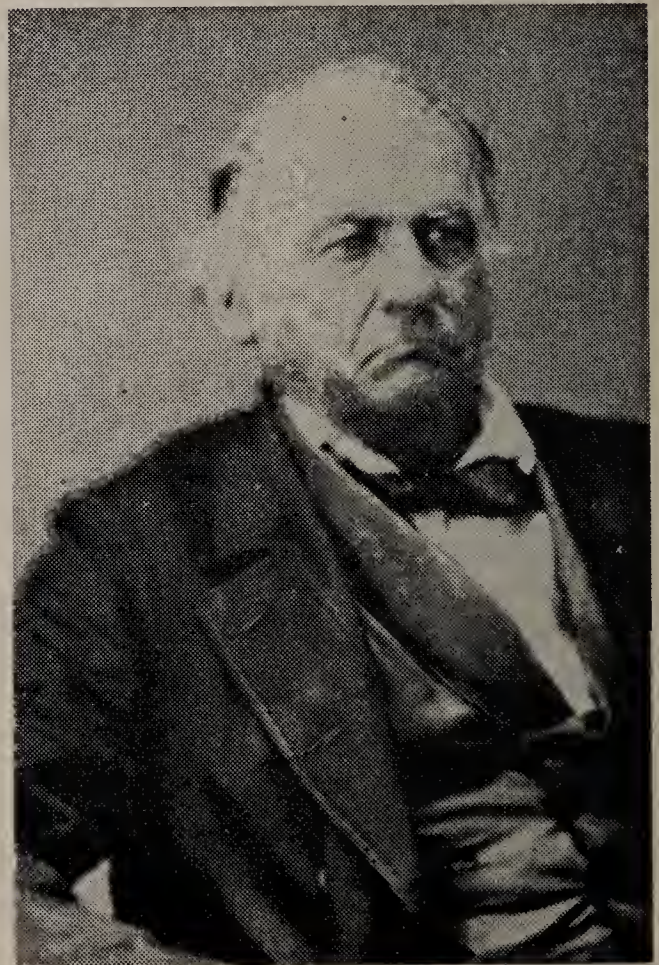
Mary Ann Hess, 2nd child of Balser and Mary Eve Hess. See page 69 for story of her life. From collection of Dr. George Noble Kreider, Springfield, Illinois.



Susan Hess, 8th child of Balser and Mary Eve Hensel Hess. See page 117 for story of her life. Preston Brown collection.



Mary Saloma Hess, 6th child of Balser and Mary Eve Hess. See page 109 for story.



Rev. Samuel Carpenter, 2nd husband of Mary Saloma Hess. Brown collection.

where to find the soul." Around him a large cemetery has now grown, known as the Union Cemetery of Columbus. Two of his sons and a number of grandchildren are buried near him. The shaft and honorary markers at the grave have been previously mentioned.

THE WILL OF BALSER HESS

In the name of God, Amen. I, Balser Hess, of the State of Ohio, Franklin County, being very weak in body, but of perfect mind and memory—Thanks to Almighty God—calling into mind the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed once for me to die—do make this my last will and testament, that is to say principally and first of all, I give and recommend my soul into the hands of the Almighty God that gave it, and I recommend my body to the earth, and as touching such worldly estate, wherewith it has pleased God to bless me in this life, I give, devise and dispose of the same in the following manner and form:

First; I give and bequeath to Mary Eve, my dearly beloved wife, 130 acres of my land, the east end adjoining the Whetstone River, to be hers while she doth live and at her death, then, I give the above mentioned tract or parcel of land to my well beloved son, Moses.

Also; I give to my well beloved son, Daniel, 130 acres of my land or parcel of ground adjoining the above mentioned tract or parcel of ground, lying west of the above mentioned tract or parcel of ground.

Also; I give to my well beloved Son, Balser, 140 acres of land or parcel of ground at the west end of my tract or parcel of ground adjoining the afore-mentioned tract or parcel or middle tract of ground.

Also; I give to my son Balser my bay mare and rifle gun.

Also; I give to my well beloved wife, Mary Eve, the third of all my movable property, goods and chattels, etc.

Also; Mary Eve, Catherine, Elizabeth, Saloma and Susannah are to have as much as Mary Ann has got and the remainder of my goods and chattels to be equally divided amongst all my daughters.

Also; My well beloved wife and son, Daniel Hess, whom I likewise constitute, make and ordain, the sole Executrix of this my last "Will and Testament", by them, freely to be possessed and enjoyed, ratifying and confirming this and no other, to be my last Will and Testament.

In witness, whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this 3rd day of December, 1806.

Signed, sealed, published, pronounced and declared by the said Balser Hess as his last Will and Testament, in the presence of us, who in his presence and in the presence of each other, have hereto subscribed our names.

John Williams
Joseph Smart

His
X
Balser Hess
mark.

Seal

The foregoing "Will" was proven December 27, 1806, and ordered to be recorded.

Recorded in Will Record A page 8 in
Franklin County Courthouse, Probate Court.

Attest: Lucas Sullivan
Clerk.

ELIJAH FULTON LAND

177
Balser Hess

149½
Daniel Hess

181.5
Moses Hess

157 as 17 P
177

131 as 24 P
149½

130 as 110.5

JOHN LYSLES LAND

Draught of a tract of land situated on the Whetstone River in Franklin County, surveyed for the heirs of Balser Hess, deceased, and divided as above, the 12th day of 1807.

JOSEPH EATON

Note: I am indebted to William Preston Brown, husband of Aunt Lou (Louisa Hess Brown) for copying above will and information.

WILL COMMENTS

An examination of the above will discloses some interesting things. The will was proven and ordered recorded in the will record of Franklin County, the same day that Balser Hess died. Therefore we learn that he must have passed very early in the morning of December 27, 1806. Otherwise the will could not have been proven the same day. It discloses that its maker was a very reverent and religious man

in thought, action and character. While it is true he was weak when it was drawn and therefore had help, it is probably much of his own dictation. It is likely that he called men to help him who were of the same beliefs and same religious fervor and possibly belonged to the same church. One calls only his trusted and proven friends when he calls for witnesses to his last official act in this world. So the writer believes he dictated much of it and one of the witnesses acted as scribe, advisor and counsellor. It would be interesting to look up the connections of Messrs. Williams and Smart in the community with our ancestor, but time does not permit.

It is noted that he signed with his mark. We are sure he could write, because of his training and education under Michael Leatherman (read document One) which provides that as a provision of the apprenticeship, and we know he signed several deeds at York and Bedford, Pennsylvania, before migrating to Ohio, and which are of record in those county seats. In the preamble of the will, he says, "being very weak in body, but of perfect mind and memory." It is believed he could no longer coordinate. This is also borne out by the disease from which he died, a brain disease, which probably affected body movement and he was probably by this late date partially paralyzed.

It is noted that he remembered his first love first, Mary Eve his devoted wife. His first thought was for her protection and care. Little did he know in these his last days that she was to need that protection and care for fifty years after he made the provisions. He gave her a life estate in the 130 acres lying just west of the Whetstone River and which is the site of the present homestead. His next thought seemed to be how to perpetuate the homestead in the family, so at her death he gave it to their youngest child and son Moses, who was a mere child in 1806. He probably reasoned that Moses, a child, had no immediate need of the farm, while his sons Daniel and Balser, both grown men, would want to get started on farming projects of their own. Also Moses would live with his mother and while he grew to manhood the widow would have the use and income from the same. This was true but because of the extremely long life of the widow, Moses did not get possession of his estate for fifty years, in fact not until he was well past middle life, 56

years of age. That is one of the reasons that accounts for the homestead being in the family for 150 years.

Having provided for the widow and small son, his thoughts turned next to his eldest and trusted son Daniel. He bequeathed him the 130 acres lying just west of the widow and Moses's share. The writer believes that the divide between these two tracts is what is now Olentangy Road, which he trod many times on his way to and from school.

Taking the family in the order of age he next provided for his second son and namesake Balser II. He gave him the 140 acres lying just west of Daniel's tract. The reader will note that the above three tracts willed total exactly 400 acres, the same number of acres deeded to him by Jonathan Dayton, and this was all the land he owned at death. As a personal touch he gave Balser his bay mare and rifle gun. He must have been the farmer, hunter, and adventurer of the family.

He next returned to the disposal of his personal property. The widow again was first considered. She was to get one-third of all his personal estate. He then named five daughters and said they "are to have as much as Mary Ann has got," from which we assume Mary Ann has already received a part of her dowry. Mary Ann married Henry Cryder, a son of Michael Cryder, and being the eldest daughter she was married before the death of her father and received a dowry at the time of her marriage. He spoke of his goods and chattels, etc. Since he spent less than one-third of the price he received from the Bedford property in the purchase of the Ohio farm, it is certain he had considerable personal property. Mary Ann was born August 31, 1784, and would have been twenty-two or past when her father died, so the above bequests and statement of having advanced money to her fits perfectly into the picture. Now that he would not be here to do likewise for the younger daughters, he provided for a like dowry for these girls in the will. The three boys having been taken care of by an equal division of his real estate among them, he now provided that the balance of his personal estate should be divided equally among all of his daughters.

A will is never complete until the maker designates some person or persons to carry out the provisions therein. He

now turned to the wife, Mary Eve, and Daniel, the eldest son, and named them as joint executrix and executor of the will, indicating he had the utmost confidence in them to carry out the provisions to the last letter, and that he was convinced of Daniel's business ability.

The will is a most excellent and comprehensive document. It shows careful and planned thinking in its provisions. One is impressed with the fairness—no favorites, no coolness toward any. There is an honest attempt to perpetuate his real estate in the family, provide security for his widow, and be fair and honest in the division of his earthly holdings among his large and still young family. These characteristics have been noted throughout his life. He lived them, he practiced them, he died extolling them. Balser Hess was most certainly a Christian gentleman. What greater tribute can be paid to any man? His life should be an inspiration to his descendants to emulate.

MARY EVE HESS, A WIDOW FOR NEARLY FIFTY YEARS

When the reader was introduced to Mary E. Hensel he was promised more concerning her life later, as a widow of Balser Hess. The day her beloved husband died was the darkest day of her life. She was still young, as we measure life's span today. She was forty-three and the mother of nine children ranging in age from twenty-three to seven. She was suddenly elevated to the head of this large family in what was almost a wilderness in 1806. How well she was prepared remains to be seen. It was fortunate that among the older children were two grown boys, Daniel twenty-two and Balser twenty. They could continue to clear the farm, run the farming, erect buildings and help rear the smaller children who were all girls except the youngest, John Moses. Daniel seems to have been an unusually good boy. It is said he told his mother, after his father's premature passing, that he would never marry until all his sisters were married and settled in life. That could have been quite a contract and sacrifice for a young man for there were five of these sisters younger than Balser II. It seems he did that very thing: acting the part of a father, keeping up family worship, managing the farm for many years, and helping his mother in every way to bring up the family, educate them, and get them started in life.

During her early widowhood Mary Eve must have been extremely busy and capable of turning out much work. The running of the farm, making the clothes, planning three meals a day, being a family nurse for nine children, and the many other duties certainly constituted no small task. To be busy is to be contented and happy. She must have been happy in her devoted service to this large family. There was no time for the more frivolous things of life—no bridge clubs, no women's clubs, no theaters, no golf and no fairs. The social life of the time centered in the family circle and church life.

I again quote from the letter written by Mrs. Laura Carpenter Finley of Xenia, Ohio, in February, 1890, to her cousin Louisa Hess Brown, in which she says: "My mother, Mary Saloma Hess, daughter of Bolser Hess, was raised a Presbyterian. She often spoke of grandmother's piety, her devotion to her church and pastor, Mr. Hoge. A share of the best of everything on the farm was sent as a loving gift to this dear pastor and friend, and his visits looked forward to with rare pleasure on grandma's part, and with anxiety by the children who were strictly catechised when he came. Grandmother was one of the organizers of the First Presbyterian Church at Columbus—the church that has Mr. Hoge's tablet by the side of the pulpit. She was the last surviving member of those who went into the organization at Franklinton, now West Columbus.

"Grandmother's daughters had the advantage of instruction from an Eastern lady who was highly accomplished, and who by some means had drifted to these western wilds. She found a home in grandmother's family and instructed the daughters of the household, not only in books, but in various feminine accomplishments, lace making, fine needle work, etc. She filled the place corresponding to that of a governess, but at length the neighbors desiring her instructions for their children, she opened a school in the neighborhood.

"I remember my grandmother Hess distinctly. I will give an incident my mother related to me of her courage and presence of mind. She was going with one of her daughters (Polly) to visit a friend. Both were on horseback. They had to ford a stream and found the water high and the ford washed and changed. They soon found their horses were

swimming, and a colt belonging to the one Polly was riding was drowning. The mother of the colt became almost frantic. Grandmother cried to Polly—who was ready to faint—‘Grit your teeth, Polly, shut your eyes and hold on for your life,’ and urging her horse to the sinking colt, caught it by the ear and thus supporting it, and encouraging her terrified daughter, got them safely to the other side of the stream.

“My mother when a child was both terrified and fascinated with the Indians, who frequently came to their home—bringing game, moccasins, pouches, etc. embroidered with dyed porcupine quills, demanding flour, fruits, calico and other things in exchange. The squaws would set their papooses, wrapped in bark, against the house while they were within, and mother would steal out to gaze upon the black-eyed babies in their funny little cradles. Indian alarms were frequent and the flight of the family to Franklinton in fear of an Indian raid, and in expectation of Indians ready to spring from behind every tree were frequent, blood curdling experiences.”

It is doubtful if Grandmother Hess ever returned to her old home at Bedford. It would have been a long hard trip by boat, stage, and possibly part of the way on horseback. Her presence was almost indispensable at home during those first years as a widow, while the children were small, but the pressure was slowly relieved as the children began to marry off one by one. Mary Ann, who married Henry Cryder, was already married when her father died, as one can deduct when reading the will. Balser II married Sarah Immel April 11, 1809, (Balser Hess II Family Bible). Their son John was born August 10, 1810. This was the writer's grandfather. My father, Henry B. Hess, always claimed his father was born at the homestead, which stood on the spot where the windmill stood in later years, and about twenty-five or thirty feet east of the present brick house. If this is true, Balser II probably had not had time to erect buildings on his land to the west and was still living with his mother. That is reasonable, as only three years had elapsed since he received his land under the will. Later he did build buildings on this tract. But I am certain several of the older children of Balser II were born at their grandmother's home. The housing situation was acute then as now. It re-

minds one of the story of recent origin, where the young bridegroom had expected to live with his wife's mother, but after the wedding found his wife's mother still living with her folks.

It is certain that many of her grandchildren were born at the homestead or near there and she was doctor, nurse, and advisor. Such an arrangement is a convenient and happy one. I thought when a child that my grandmother, Rachael Holsinger Rensberger, was "tops." I was sure she knew more than any doctor I have ever seen. If only my confidence could be half as good and strong in the medical profession of today with all its advancement, scientific discoveries and knowledge! My grandmother knew what to do for a boy with a sore throat or who had indulged in too many green apples, and her remedies were never questioned. In addition to being my grandmother she was my idol; she knew all and was my refuge and protector when I ran afoul of the family at home.

So I picture the grandchildren of Mary E. Hess 150 years ago. Human nature changes little if any. It is a most constant factor. The Cryder grandchildren lived back at or near Hopetown, about fifty miles south. However, the children of Balser II, after the buildings on his farm were built, were just across the fields, less than a mile as the crow flies. So after they moved to themselves it was still just east across the fields to grandmother's home. These children—John, Elias, Mary Eve (the name sake), Balser III, the twins Moses and Israel, Emily, Daniel and Martha—must have spent many days at Grandmother Hess's home, taking lessons at her knees while she knit their socks and sweaters. This set of grandchildren all moved with their parents to Goshen, Indiana, in March, 1829. It must have been the second saddest day of her life when this son and nine children, who had lived so close for twenty years after his marriage, departed for the then wilds of Indiana. It is doubtful if she ever saw more than two or three of them again, even though she lived until 1855, twenty-six years after their departure for the West. This must also have been a sorry day for the grandchildren, for what is more important in the life of a child than an understanding, adoring and unprejudiced grandmother! This is not the only time Grandmother Hess was saddened by the departure of children and

families. In the 1830s several of the daughters moved to Illinois with their families. The only difference is that these families had not lived as close as did Balser II and the attachments were not quite so strong. But that is life. Most other pioneer families experienced the same sad partings. When one lives into the 90s as did Grandmother Hess there must be more of them. In 1798 she had left her family at Bedford, a sad day for the Hensels. Again history was repeating itself and her sons and daughters were leaving the Ohio home in like manner, also to blaze a trail westward and work out their lives and destinies in Indiana and Illinois. Just as she never returned to her people at Bedford, few of her children or grandchildren ever returned to see her. These are some of the sacrifices and heartaches necessary to the founding of a great nation in the American wilderness. Grandmother Hess was not alone, for thousands of grandmothers of that pioneer day had like experiences.

We do know that some of her family of migrators did return to see her during this widowhood. I have tried to find evidence that my own grandfather John, one of the oldest of her grandchildren, returned to Ohio. He was nineteen when the family came to Goshen, but I find no evidence that he ever returned to Ohio. Elias was seventeen when the family left, and there is evidence that he stopped at Columbus on his way home from the California Gold Rush about 1849. These boys were both old enough to have had many friends back in Ohio besides their grandmother, uncles and aunts.

Israel Hess, a younger brother, spent some time in the early 1840s in the home of his Aunt Eve Hess, who had married Emanuel Cryder and lived in the Hopetown, Ohio, community. I now quote from a letter of William Preston Brown's concerning Israel Hess, written about forty years ago:

"Cousin Israel Hess of Goshen, Indiana, a son of Balser II and a grandson of Balser Hess, Sr. of Franklin County, Ohio, during a visit to his cousins, at and near Columbus, Ohio, between January 25 and 29, 1902, related to me (Wm. P. Brown) the following information obtained from his father Balser Hess Jr. or II, 'My grandfather and son Daniel Hess cut out the road from Franklinton, up the Whetstone to where a clearing was made and a cabin

erected near the present site of the James Hess residence. My father (Balser Hess Jr.) drove the team, the first to be driven in the forks of the Scioto and Whetstone Rivers.'

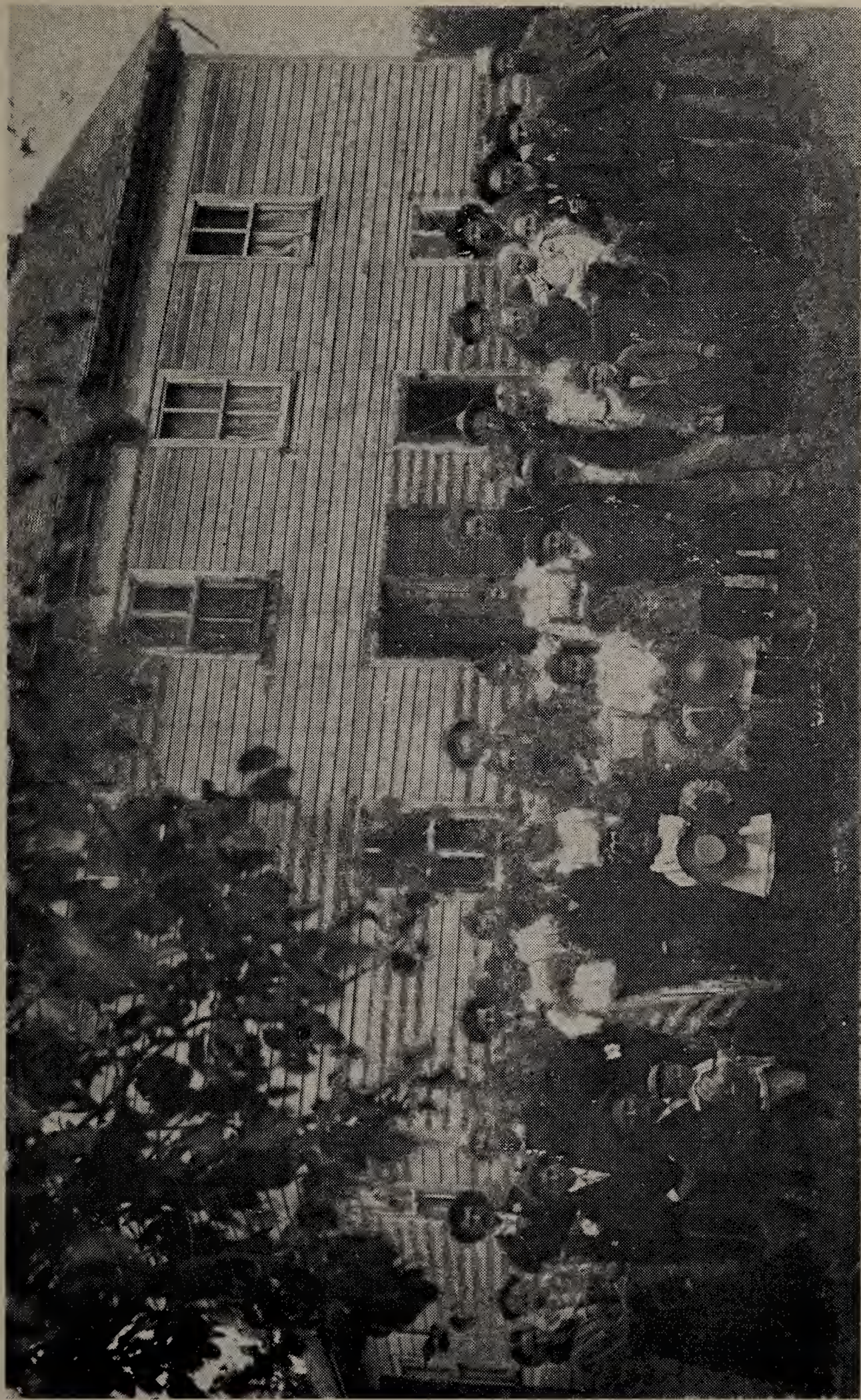
Israel also said that on New Year's Day, 1844, he with eight other Hesses met at the residence of Samuel Hess in Chillicothe, Ohio, to see what relationship existed between them. Samuel claimed to have descended from a brother of Balser Hess Sr. (Note. No other brother ever existed. At least he was not named in the Casper Hess estate papers.) Israel also said that all present bore a striking resemblance to each other. Also that his Aunt Eve Cryder, wife of Emanuel Cryder, of Hopetown, Ohio, where he made his home for four years about 1844, told him the land occupied by them came from Michael Cryder, the father of Emanuel, and that Grandfather Hess had supposed he owned it by virtue of settling upon it and was dispossessed of it, losing his improvements, when he moved to Franklinton on the Whetstone River near Columbus, Ohio."

It is evident that Israel Hess, while a member of the Cryder family in the 1840s, must have seen his grandmother many times in that four years.

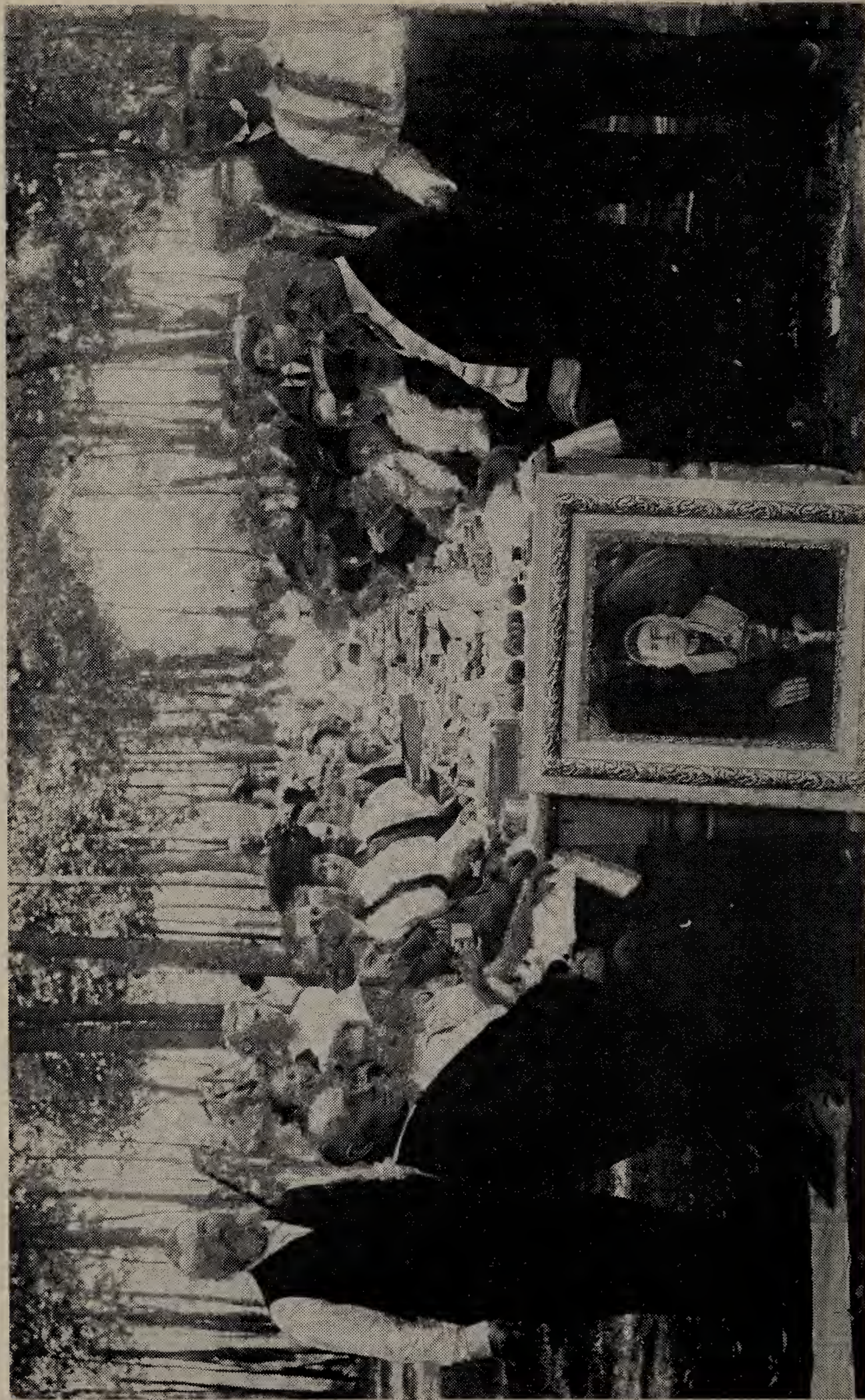
Moses Hess, the twin brother of Israel, left Goshen, Indiana, in 1849 to seek his fortune when gold was discovered in California. He returned through Panama, Gulf of Mexico and New York City. The writer believes that since Columbus was in his almost direct path home he did stop to see his grandmother, who still lived and was nearing ninety. His uncles, Daniel and Moses, also lived at the Ohio homestead. Another reason is that a close friendship existed between this Moses of Indiana and James Hess, a son of his Uncle Mose at Columbus, for many years after.

Recently the writer found pictures in the James Hess album which might indicate that Daniel Hess of the Goshen grandchildren might have visited her. He was only seven when the family moved to Goshen and could not have remembered his grandmother too well, but this picture suggests a friendship between him and James Hess that might date back to any early visit to see his grandmother.

In his memories, written to his son Eugene Cryder, from Rosalia, Kansas, to Morris, Illinois, in 1895, Michael Cryder, a son of Mary Ann Hess and Henry Cryder, and a grandson, tells of his visit to the homestead in 1845, from Morris,



First Hess Reunion near Argos, Indiana, at home of Erastus Hess who is kneeling by his youngest son, Jack, who holds American flag. Jack is now of Fresno, California. This picture consists mostly of the Erastus Hess family and several Lolmaughs who intermarried. Naomi (Scott) Hess stands directly back of her husband, Erastus.



Eleventh Hess Reunion, August 31, 1911, Blosser's Park, part of Hess homestead near Goshen. The park is an island in Elkhart River. Picture is of Sarah Immell Hess, mother of the Indiana Hess family. Standing at left is Henry Balser Hess, grandson and owner of picture.

Illinois. There doubtless were others of which the writer has no knowledge.

Grandmother Mary Eve Hess was a widow forty-nine years. She could neither read nor write English but spoke it brokenly. She lived until January 26, 1855, having attained the age of ninety-two years and four days. She must have had remarkable strength and health, to live so long in that pioneer day and land. It is an old saying that work never kills anyone, it is worry. Her life is proof of the saying. It is not recorded of what she died. She very possibly died just of old age. Completely worn out, she just quietly slipped away. She was buried beside her husband Balser, in Union Cemetery, Columbus, after remaining his widow for nearly fifty years, when in death they again were joined. Her descendants numbered in the hundreds—children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and in a few cases, great-great-grandchildren. Her name, Mary Eve, has been perpetuated through the feminine line in many places; and her life revered thereby. The present owner of the homestead is Mary E. Hess, daughter of James Hess and a great-granddaughter.

Every descendant of Balser and Mary Eve Hensel Hess should make at least one pilgrimage to the Union Cemetery at Columbus, and stand in reverence at the graves of these two patriots, pioneers, and pious Christians. He waited seven years for her to grow to womanhood and join him in the holy bonds of matrimony. Then he waited nearly fifty years for her to join him in that other and better world. Now they can rest together in peace throughout the endless ages of Eternity.

I. DANIEL HESS, 1783-1862

Daniel Hess, the oldest child of Balser Hess and his wife Mary Eve Hensel Hess, was born February 2, 1783, at Bedford, Bedford County, Pennsylvania. He spent his boyhood days in Bedford and worked in his father's shoe shop and leather goods store. They made shoes from the raw products, so here he learned the manufacturing business of that day. They sold shoes and leather goods out of the store and he learned the retail business of the day.

His mother's people, the Hensels, lived twelve miles south of Bedford and were prosperous farmers. He most

certainly spent some time on this farm during this first fifteen years in the village of Bedford. There he learned from his Grandfather Hensel the basic principles of farming. He learned to swing an axe, use a saw, a sickle and trowel and other tools essential to pioneer life. This training was to serve him well a few years later in the Ohio wilderness and there were school advantages there that the younger children were denied in the then wilds of Ohio, where they were to spend their early childhood. In fact his education was quite complete for that early day.

When Daniel was fifteen years of age in 1798, he helped the family move to Hopetown, Ohio, where they were greeted by the Michael Cryder family, their Bedford neighbors who preceded them to Hopetown in 1796, just two years before. Here he helped clear the land and erect buildings on the land his father chose for homesteading, and later lost to Michael Cryder because of "sleeping on his rights" as a homesteader too long. In late 1801 or early 1802 the family moved fifty miles north to Franklinton, Ohio, where his father bought four hundred acres of land and proceeded to start all over. Daniel again was a strong factor in this successful venture. He was now twenty years old and a grown man. He helped to clear the land and erect the first log cabin about three miles north of the forks of the Scioto and Olentangy Rivers on the banks of the latter.

On receipt of the deed for this 400 acres at Franklinton, Daniel was dispatched, by his mother, on horseback to Chillicothe, Ohio, to have the deed properly recorded. Mother Eve had learned her lesson well and the Hopetown incident must not reoccur. On December 27, 1806, between four and five years after arriving at the new home, Balser Hess died. Daniel, now twenty-four, moved up as head of the family. He was co-administrator, with his mother, of his father's will. His father had named him in the will for this important trust because of his age, experience, educational advantages and the implicit confidence he had in Daniel's ability and integrity. It is said that at this dark time in the life of the family, he told his widowed mother that he would stick by her and help raise the children and would never marry till all his sisters were settled in life. This promise was fulfilled with a few years to spare.

Daniel Hess was married on April 20, 1819, to Sarah Gordon of Franklinton, Franklin County, Ohio. (Marriage record Vol. 2, page 79 of Franklin County, Ohio.) He was past thirty-six years of age. He had waited till all his brothers and sisters were married, with the exception of the youngest brother, John Moses, who did not marry till July 25, 1824. Sarah Gordon was born February 13, 1801, and was just past eighteen years of age when married and, therefore, just half the age of her husband.

Their entire married life was spent in Franklin County, Ohio, and possibly much of it on the farm he inherited from his father. His principal occupation was farming. He spent his last days in the village of North Columbus, just across the Olentangy River to the east. There he died August 14, 1862, aged seventy-nine years, six months and twelve days. His widow Sarah died at the same place January 5, 1873, aged seventy-one years, ten months, and eight days, after being his widow a little over ten years. Both are buried in Union Cemetery, near the burial place of his father and mother. A large family stone marks these graves. (Note. These dates are verified by dates on above stone and the research of William Preston Brown.)

Daniel Hess had a sterling character. He placed the welfare of his widowed mother and her eight younger children above his own personal life and interests, and devoted nearly half his long life to her care and the rearing of the younger children. It is said he was a devoted Christian and conducted family worship in the home after the passing of his father. His slogan in life must have been "Others." While not a great man as the world measures men, he must have been a great man in the eyes of those younger brothers and sisters that he guided and gave fatherly advice. He left "foot prints on the sands of time" that we who live after might take courage and emulate.

Daniel Hess and his wife Sarah Gordon had ten children.

- 1—1. Henry G. Hess, b. 1820, d. 1827, aged seven years.
- 1—2. Lucy Hess, b. 1823. Married Elah Shanck of Morrow County, Ohio. He was a lawyer and judge and served as a judge of the Supreme Court of Ohio.
- 1—3. Amanda Hess, b. 1825. Never married and died at the home of her sister Lucy Shanck in Morrow County, Ohio.

- 1—4. Daniel Hess Jr., b. October 7, 1827. Married Eliza Shattuck of Clinton township, daughter of Captain Alexander Shattuck, April 30, 1857. (M.R. Vol 5, page 359 records Franklin County, Ohio). Eliza Shattuck, b. Feb. 3, 1834, d. Mar. 15, 1895 at Columbus, Ohio. Daniel Hess Jr. was ordained a minister in the Primitive Baptist Church in 1862. He held charges in Columbus, Ohio, Cincinnati and again in Columbus. After the death of Eliza Shattuck he married a widow from the State of Georgia. With her and a stepson he attended at least two Hess reunions in Indiana. The writer met this family on August 25, 1904, at the home of Jackson Felkner at Milford, Indiana. He gave the invocation at this reunion. He died the next year in Georgia. A tombstone has been placed in the Union Cemetery at Columbus, bearing the following inscription:

“REV. DANIEL HESS—BURIED IN GEORGIA
1827-1895.”

This date is an error, as I know he attended the above reunion and died the next year. It may have been confused with the date of his wife's death at Columbus which was 1895. I believe he died in 1905.

- 1—5. Philemon Hess, b. Mar. 10, 1829. m. Mrs. Mary Foster, widow of Samuel G. Foster, December 19, 1865, by his brother Daniel Jr. (M.R. Vol. 9, page 178, Franklin County records) d. Jan. 31, 1908, at 41 East Main St, Columbus, Ohio. Buried in Union Cemetery, Columbus, and the grave is well marked.
- 1—6. Mary Eve Hess, b. 1831, m. Thomas W. Cover, Morrow County, Ohio, December 31, 1865, at home of brother Philemon Hess and by brother, Daniel Jr. (M.R. Vol. 9, page 243 records of Franklin County) d. December 11, 1907—Riverside, California. Had at least one daughter who married Frank C. Gould and was living in San Francisco County, California, on July 26, 1892. (Wm. P. Brown).
- 1—7. William Wilson Hess, b. 1833, m. Harriet _____ of Shelbyville, Ill., d. 1892 Shelbyville, Ill. Practiced law at Columbus, Ohio, and later in Shelbyville, Illinois. Was elected a district judge in Illinois. Had at least one daughter, Mary Alice Hess.

- 1—8. Horatio Gates Hess, b. 1835. Never married. Went to California where he died many years ago.
1—9. Emeline A. Hess, b. 1838, d. in infancy.
1—10. Alfred G. Hess or Alice G. Hess, b. around 1840 and died of scarlet fever as a child.

2. MARY ANN HESS, 1784-1857

Mary Ann Hess (called Polly) was born at Bedford, Pennsylvania, August 31, 1784. She was the second child of Balser and Mary Eve Hensel Hess. She spent her early childhood in the town of Bedford and probably some time at the farm home of her mother's family the Hensels, who lived twelve miles south of Bedford, on Casselmans Run. She received most if not all, of her formal education at Bedford, which was well settled and no longer a frontier town in the late 1700s.

In 1798 at the age of fourteen she moved with the family from Bedford, Pennsylvania, to Hopetown, Ohio, where the Balser Hess family moved and joined their old Bedford neighbors, the Michael Cryder family. Here again the two families lived as close neighbors until late 1801 or early 1802, when the Hess family moved to Franklinton, Ohio, as previously related. There were several boys in the Cryder family, all older than the six Hess girls, of whom Mary Ann was the oldest. She was eighteen when the families separated, and on March 10, 1802, she married Henry Cryder, one of the sons of Michael Cryder and his second wife, (Sarah) Salome Carpenter. Henry Cryder was born March 8, 1780.

It seems Mary Ann never went with her family to Franklinton, as she was married about the time of this departure, which was late fall or early spring. In spite of the troubles and differences of the two fathers over their land, Mary Ann had probably made up her mind to cast her lot in life with Henry Cryder, and therefore remained with the Cryder family when her own family departed. It is possible, and highly probable, that they took over the Hess farm and improvements and farmed there. It is also possible that such an agreement could have been reached between the two fathers, before Balser Hess volunteered to move off peaceably "and leave the land he had cleared to Michael Cryder, who beat him to the land office in Chillicothe, Ohio, entered the same and now held title. Another reason for above be-

liefs is disclosed in the Balser Hess will. Quote, "Also; Mary Eve; Catherine, Elizabeth, Saloma and Susannah are to have as much as Mary Ann has got and the remainder of my goods and chattels to be equally divided amongst all my daughters." This will was written in 1806, four years after moving from Hopetown. It indicates that Mary Ann had received her dowry, which must have been at the time of her marriage to Henry Cryder, and very likely this was one of the considerations in settling the differences between the two fathers. This marriage probably had much to do with holding the two families together and later resulted in several intermarriages between the families, which will be discussed later.

The old Cryders and Hesses were filled with the pioneering spirit. As soon as they had cleared and were farming a spot in the wilderness, and could really start living, they were casting their eyes for more lands to conquer. In about 1817 Henry Cryder and his wife Mary Ann Hess Cryder disposed of their interests at Hopetown (Sec. D.R. 11, p. 443—7-28-1813 and D.R. 15, p. 118—5-17-1818 Ross County, Ohio) and moved about seventy-five miles north into Delaware County, Ohio. This was about twenty-five miles north of the Franklinton home of Mary Eve Hess, now a widow. In fact it was directly on the road to their new Delaware County home, and was a stopping place along the road of this move. The grandchildren probably stayed with Grandmother Hess till the new home was ready to receive the family of growing children. It was also a stopping off place when the family visited the Cryder relatives back in Hopetown. Here they again went through the routine of clearing the farm, building log houses, splitting rails for fences and all that goes with building a pioneer home on the 100 acre farm they purchased. Here the younger children were born.

A PROSPECTING TRIP

In 1828 Balser Hess II, who was Mary Ann's brother and next to her in age, had made a trip to Indiana and Illinois and in 1829 settled at Goshen, Indiana. Balser Hess had married Sarah Immell, a niece of Henry Cryder, a daughter of his older sister Sarah. Reports were reaching restless Henry of the success of these Goshen relatives and of the fertile land over in the Fox River Valley of Illinois. These reports must be verified.

In the early summer of 1832, leaving the farm to the care of the half grown family, Henry Cryder was on horseback heading for Goshen and central Illinois. He stopped at the Balser Hess II home. It would have been interesting to have listened in on the tales and dreams of this family group those evenings. Henry was in some ways an unusual man. He had enough Carpenter in him that he never minimized his stories and enough Cryder that he was a shrewd business man. The Hess children were all living at home in 1832. John, the eldest, was twenty-two and Lydia was a baby. Uncle Henry must have been quite a man to them. He was married to their father's sister, which made him an uncle and then was their great-uncle in blood on their mother's side, being a brother to their grandmother, Sarah Cryder Immel. It probably did not take too much persuasive ability to convince Balser Hess II that he should accompany Henry on this trip west. Balser may have had visions also. They started west via Elkhart, South Bend, LaPorte, the south end of Lake Michigan, around to Fort Dearborn which is now Chicago. They continued on west to the Fox River Valley and followed the river southwest to Holderman's Grove. The trip was made on horseback. There were already a few scattered settlements along the route, but west to Chicago must have been mostly wilderness.

The Fox River Valley is a beautiful and fertile valley to this day. It was no wonder that Henry Cryder was sold on its future. Both men were farmers. Both knew good land when they saw it. Land that would produce large crops of corn and wheat was their ideal. Both men had passed around the south end of Lake Michigan and up its west coast to Fort Dearborn. This land was low and swampy. Little did they dream that today, a little over one hundred years later, five million people would live on this swamp; that it was destined to become one of the greatest industrial areas of the world; and many believe it will be the greatest industrial area of the world without question, before another hundred years roll by. Both men had money. Land in this swamp could be bought for a pittance. Neither could see it. How shortsighted is human judgment and vision! Both men were convinced of the future of the Fox River Valley. They returned to the home of Balser Hess II at Goshen, Indiana.

After the tales and exploits of the trip were told to the Hess family and neighbors Henry Cryder returned to his home in Delaware County, Ohio, where the Cryder family was filled with the story of the wonderful land of opportunity in the valley of the Fox River.

ON TO ILLINOIS

I now quote from a letter written by Michael Cryder III, a son of Henry Cryder, to his son Eugene Cryder, from Rosalia, Kansas, to Morris, Illinois, in 1898:

"When father returned home he offered our place in Delaware County, Ohio, for sale. It consisted of 100 acres of land all cleared of timber and under cultivation. The improvements were a good two-storied frame house, a flour mill, a sawmill and a factory with all the machinery for turning out cloth from the raw wool, . . . All this was offered for \$4000.00, and in the summer of 1833 he got a buyer for it. He was a Mr. Standeburg of New York, who paid down \$3000.00 and gave a mortgage for \$1000.00 payable in one year." (Sec. D.R. 11, p. 334—Cryder to Stoutenbaugh dated 8-1-1833 and M.R. 11, p. 365, dated 8-1-1833 Stoutenbaugh to Cryder Rec. of Delaware County, Ohio.)

"Our family consisted of father, mother (Mary Ann Hess Cryder), Eve, Elizabeth, Mary, Katherine, Michael, Harriet and Susan, in the order of their births. Eve and Mary were married and living in the neighborhood. Elizabeth was married and living in Pennsylvania. Katherine was living with her grandmother on the Hess farm. Michael, Harriet and Susan were still young and living at home. Father made public sale. At this time he was about 54 years old and mother near 50. Everything was hustle and bustle to get ready for the move. The N. H. Tabler family and Z. Walley family and Uncle Mose Hess went with us. We had three covered wagons outfitted and loaded. The first loaded with supplies was drawn by three yoke of oxen. The second was owned and driven by Z. Walley and his family rode in it. The third was horse drawn and Mary Tabler and two children, mother and we three younger children rode in it.

"We got off September 23, 1833. We took the nearest air line route we could through Indianapolis, Lafayette, Beaver Creek and Aux Sable. We drove about fifteen head of cattle

through and made about fifteen miles a day. We finally arrived and had nothing to shelter us but the wagons. There were five men: father, Uncle Mose Hess (his mother's brother), Z. Walley, N. H. Tabler and Joseph Roderack. All were good with the axe and in a short time we had a log house built twenty-four feet square and a story and a half high."

This September 23, 1833, must have been another dark day in the life of Grandmother Hess. This family of Cryder grandchildren and possibly some great-grandchildren had lived for fifteen or twenty years just twenty miles north. How many of them ever returned to see her is a guess. Above quoted Michael Cryder tells of his visits back to see her and his Uncle Mose Hess, who returned to the Hess homestead after seeing his sister and family settled in Illinois. One of these trips was in the fall of 1845 and he tells of an interesting horse trade consummated between him and his Uncle Mose. It seems Uncle Mose was as shrewd as the Cryder clan, and same is told in good fun.

Here in Grundy County, Illinois, near the present town of Morris, Mary Ann Hess Cryder, the subject of this sketch, spent her last days. It was a prosperous move and the descendants did well. After over one hundred years there is a large descendancy in and around Morris, where a Cryder Reunion is held each year. The writer has attended this reunion several times and knows many of this family. Edwin and Eugene Cryder, sons of Michael Cryder III, who wrote above quoted letter, have attended the Hess reunion at Goshen several times, and stayed with my father, Henry B. Hess, who in turn made several trips to visit these relatives in Illinois about forty years ago. These men were all aware of their Hess relationship, but I am sure all died not knowing that the entire Goshen Hess family had Cryder blood in their veins, which related them doubly. Sarah Immell Hess was a daughter of Sarah Cryder, a sister of Mary Ann's husband Henry Cryder. The above quoted Michael Cryder knew this but failed to mention it in his memoirs for the benefit of the descendants of each family.

Henry Cryder died near Morris, Grundy County, Illinois, December 19, 1847; aged 67 years, 9 months and 11 days. He had lived in his newly established home fourteen years. Mary Ann Hess Cryder died at the same place September 27,

1857, after being a widow ten years. She was 73 years and 27 days old. We have followed her from Bedford, Pennsylvania, for 73 years and three migrations, to Morris, Illinois. Both are buried in Aux Sable Cemetery, near Morris, Grundy County, Illinois.

CHILDREN OF MARY ANN HESS CRYDER AND HER
HUSBAND HENRY CRYDER

- 2—1. Sarah Cryder, b. January 3, 1803; d. April, 1817, aged fourteen.
- 2—2. Mary Eve Cryder, b. January 8, 1805; d. April 16, 1851, aged forty-seven. m. her cousin, Michael S. Cryder (1798-1834) son of Israel Cryder.
 - 2—2—1. Clementia Cryder, m. Henry Gorham.
 - 2—2—2. Henry Cryder, died young.
 - 2—2—3. Jacob Cryder.
 - 2—2—4. Hannah Mary Cryder (1824-1845), m. Jeremiah Collins (1820-1910).
 - 2—2—5. Israel Cryder (Big Israel) (1827-1857) never married.
 - 2—2—6. Minerva Cryder (1831-) never married.
- 2—3. Elizabeth Cryder (Betsy), b. June 15, 1807; d. September 13, 1879, aged 72 years. m. her cousin, Jacob Cryder (1800-1839) son of Israel Cryder.
 - 2—3—1. Hannah Mary Cryder (1827-1875) m. (1) John Barber; (2) Nathaniel H. Tabler (1809-1885).
 - 2—3—2. Henry B. Cryder (1831-1870) m. Mary E. Van Cleve (1833-1905).
 - 2—3—3. Amanda Cryder, m. Jonas Bartlett.
 - 2—3—4. Israel Cryder, m. Mary Hampson.
 - 2—3—5. Sarah Ann Cryder, m. James Reardon.
 - 2—3—6. Infant—died young.
- 2—4. Benjamin Hess Cryder, b. May 5, 1809, d. in 1817.
- 2—5. Mary Ann Cryder, b. July 1, 1812; d. Jan. 12, 1849, aged thirty-seven years, m. Nathaniel H. Tabler, b. March 13, 1809; d. May 24, 1885 (who later married his wife's niece, Hannah Mary Cryder).
 - 2—5—1. Joseph H. Tabler, m. Harriet Heath.
 - 2—5—2. David C. Tabler (1833-1889) m. Gulia E. McCloud (1834-1920).
 - 2—5—3. Matthew Tabler (died young).

- 2—5—4. Nathaniel L. Tabler (1838-1930) m. Hannah Mary Caldwell (1831-1901).
- 2—5—5. Edward L. Tabler (1840-1866) never married. Served in Civil War. Killed by mule.
- 2—5—6. Ezra Tabler (1843-1903) m. (1) Cynthia Kellogg (1848-1865) m. (2) Helen Randall (1846-1920).
- 2—5—7. Mary E. Tabler (1846-1913) m. John McCloud (1843-1929).
- 2—5—8. Elias B. Tabler, m. Jane Freckleton
- 2—6. Catherine Ann Cryder, b. December 12, 1814; d. February 4, 1849, aged 35 years. m. Zachariah Walley, b. Nov. 1, 1807; d. August 5, 1887, aged eighty years.
- 2—6—1. Elizabeth Walley (1840-1874) m. Fred Beane.
- 2—6—2. Susan Walley, m. John McKanna.
- 2—6—3. Mariah Walley, m. Peter Davis.
- 2—6—4. Sarah Eve Walley (1846-1920) m. Henry Netherton (1838-1924).
- 2—6—5. William A. Walley (1842-1920) m. Louisa Pyle (1843-1916).
- 2—6—6. Emily M. Walley, died young, 1852.
- 2—7. Sarah Ann Cryder, b. Nov. 11, 1817; d. 1818.
- 2—8. Michael Henry Cryder, b. March 21, 1820; d. Jan. 26, 1908, m. Rachel Thomas, b. May 16, 1818; d. Feb. 1, 1894.
- 2—8—1. Eliza Cryder, (1-3-1848-8-27-1854).
- 2—8—2. Francis Cryder, (11-18-1849-9-3-1854).
- 2—8—3. Lewis Cryder, (6-25-1853-8-21-1854).
- 2—8—4. Edwin Cryder, (6-29-1855-12-14-1921) m. Elizabeth Boyer (6-11-1860-1-4-1938)
- 2—8—5. Maryette Cryder (10-25-57-) m. W. L. Wainwright.
- 2—8—6. Eugene Cryder (1860-10-9-1945) m. Jennie E. Smith (11-29-1863)

(Note: This is the Michael H. Cryder whose memoirs are above quoted, concerning the move to Illinois in 1833. He says the death of the three children was the saddest experience of his life but does not mention the cause, which must have been an epidemic. He visited the Ohio relatives, both Hess and Cryder, several times after moving to Illinois, going via Goshen, Indiana, and stopping with his uncle Balser Hess.)

- 2—9. Harriett Cryder, b. Aug. 4, 1822; d. Jan. 18, 1903; m. Joshua Collins, b. September 19, 1820; d. June 14, 1879.
- 2—9—1. Mary Collins (8-9-1849-3-13-1851).
- 2—9—2. Virginia Collins (9-3-1846-1937) m. Storey Matteson.
- 2—9—3. Annie E. Collins (12-28-1852-4-3-1886) m. Elwin J. Matteson (12-7-1847-11-27-1924).
- 2—9—4. Joshua R. Collins (11-13-1854-5-15-1921) m. Emma Cryder (11-20-1864-8-10-1882) dau. of Israel Cryder.
- 2—9—5. Cryder Collins (Apr., 1855-11-13-1923) m. (1) Lillie Nelson; m. (2) Emma Walstron.
- 2—9—6. Hattie Collins, m. J. A. Wilson.
- 2—10. Susan Cryder, b. September 17, 1825; d. July 15, 1838. First death in the family in Illinois; First burial in Aux Sable Cemetery.

3. BALSER HESS II, 1786-1856

Balser Hess II was born February 14, 1786, at Bedford, Pennsylvania, the third child of Balser Hess and Mary Eve Hensel. He spent his early childhood in Bedford where he attended school and worked in his father's shoe shop and leather goods store, located on the southeast corner of Pitt and Richard Streets. He spent some time with his grandparents, the Hensels, who lived twelve miles south of town. Here he received early training in the art of handling the tools of that day, the axe, saw, sickle, trowel, etc. Here he learned to drive the ox team, the farm power of that day. This training came in handy later as he moved to Ohio and Indiana.

TO OHIO

In 1798 he moved with the family from Bedford to Hopetown, Ohio, where the Hess family joined their old Bedford County neighbors, the Michael Cryders, who had preceded them to Hopetown two years before. Here he did a boy's share to establish the family on land adjoining the Cryders. In 1802 when land title trouble developed between Cryder and Hess he again moved with the family to Franklinton, Ohio, fifty miles north, where his father purchased 400 acres of land in Clinton Township, Franklin County. Balser was now sixteen years old, sturdy, a good horseman,



Sarah Immell Hess 1792-1856. Wife of Balser Hess, second.
Mother of the Indiana Hess Family. See page 84.

a crack rifleman, the family hunter, and a fair craftsman. A craftsman of that day had to be a carpenter, a mason, a blacksmith and architect all rolled into one. He loved the wilds, and was the Esau of this combination of Daniel and Balser team of brothers. Here at Franklinton he helped cut the road north from the settlement to their farm site, clear the land, build the first log house and other buildings. When his father died, December 27, 1806, he was nearing twenty-one and took the place of a man in the family. He helped his mother and brother Daniel run the farm and rear the younger children.

MARRIES SARAH IMMELL

On April 11, 1809, he married Sarah Immell, who was born February 27, 1792, and was a granddaughter of Michael Cryder. This was the third marriage into the Michael Cryder family. We shall devote a paragraph to her life later. He must have met her through the Cryder family at Hopetown, as his two oldest sisters had already married sons of Michael and lived there. He had inherited 140 acres of the original 400 acre purchase of his father, but had not been able to get this farm cleared and buildings erected thereon prior to his marriage. For several years immediately after his marriage he engaged in the bakery business in newly started Columbus, with a partner George Rayburn. The business was located on Scioto Street, one block south of the Broad Street bridge. While he was conducting this business and living in Columbus, his first three children were born—John, the eldest at the home of his Grandmother Hess, and Elias and Mary Eve in the home on Scioto Street. During these few years he built buildings on his farm and then sold the bakery business and moved to the farm just west of the homestead occupied by the mother and younger children. Here he engaged in farming which was to be his life's vocation. Here he saw the next nine children born and saw three of them die. He completed the clearing of the farm and the erecting of farm buildings. This first twenty years of married life was spent near his mother, brothers and sisters. He prospered, was of mutual help to the family and they to him, and he had nine strong healthy children. They must have been the happiest twenty years of his life.

TO INDIANA, 1828-29

In the fall of 1828 the wanderlust spirit began to work on Balser II. Life on a cleared farm of 140 acres was getting dull. Divided among nine children this would be small acreage. He must have more land for his large and growing family. This is the spirit that settled and built the Middle West. Reports of the fine land to be homesteaded in Indiana and Illinois were trickling back to Ohio. He must investigate. He fitted himself for a prospecting trip. He had a fine black horse called Old Nig, of which he was unduly proud. In company with his brother, John Moses Hess, he rode northwest to Fort Wayne where a settlement had been founded, then up the Indian trail which later became the Fort Wayne-Goshen Road, stopping on the Elkhart River at Benton, Indiana, where Matthew Boyd had a small tavern for the benefit of early travelers and land seekers. The next morning they inspected Elkhart Prairie and Elkhart River. They were impressed by the fertile prairie where no clearing was necessary and by the flowing springs on the east bank of the river and west fringe of the prairie, just two miles south of the present city of Goshen. They pressed on westward and rounded the south end of Lake Michigan to Fort Dearborn, now the city of Chicago. They certainly were not favorably impressed by this swamp. The story is told that a man who had homesteaded eighty acres just west of the Fort, and now Chicago's Loop and near west side, offered Balser II the tract for Old Nig, his cherished riding horse. The swamp was worthless to a practical farmer, there was no market for mosquitoes, and Old Nig was valuable. How would he get back to Columbus without his mount? There was no deal. His eyes were set on Elkhart Prairie, its river and springs.

He returned to Columbus, sold his well improved farm to a man from Maryland, made ready for the long move, and on April 1, 1829, started for Elkhart County, Indiana. The family consisted of nine children, the eldest son John being nineteen, and Martha, who later married Samuel Rensberger, being the youngest. This must have been another sad day in the long life of Mary Eve Hensel Hess, when this son and large family of grandchildren, who had so far been reared just across the fields, pulled stakes, broke the home ties, and started for the West. Although she lived twenty-

six years from the day of this parting, she saw only two or three of the family again, and never saw the three born in Indiana, Lydia, Jacob, and Catherine.

With this caravan loaded with food and supplies, furniture, tools, farm equipment, oxen, horses, cattle and other farm stock it was impossible to make more than ten to fifteen miles per day. Camp had to be set up every night and broken up and loaded every morning. Balser II and the two oldest sons, John and Elias, took turns driving the ox team. I now quote from the fireside tales of Aunt Martha Rensberger to the writer when a boy, "Father drove the ox team many miles with one hand and carried me (the baby) on the other arm." There was always the problem of safe water for drinking and cooking. They followed the same route Balser II had followed the preceding fall. They passed through Fort Wayne and on northwest, arriving at the Elkhart River at or near the point where Benton is now located, on the evening of April 26, 1829. This was the south edge of the prairie. It is said Balser II was ready to call it good and wanted to stake out his claim near this spot. But Mother Sarah objected, saying, "Take us to the springs on the river you have told us about." (Martha Rensberger tales). They loaded again for the last time, and crossed Elkhart Prairie to the Elkhart River to a spot seven miles west of Benton and two miles south of Goshen, where they pitched their tent April 27, 1829. This was to be home. Sarah was delighted with the running water, cold and crystal from the east bank of the river. It is not difficult to see who had the final say to the Balser Hess II home.

This was a busy spring, with the log house to be built and the spring planting to be done on the west fringe of the prairie. Being one of the very first settlers to arrive, Balser II had no one to lean on except the family. Major Violett and Daniel Cripe arrived and settled adjoining tracts in a matter of weeks. It is said 1829 was good to these early pioneers and they were rewarded with good crops from the fertile virgin prairie land. The winters were severe, so corn in the crib, wheat in the bin, potatoes in the cellar, and ham in the smoke house were the social security of that day. By fall they were prepared. With their supplies supplemented by the wild game prevalent in the county, all survived the rigors of that first long winter.

Here the family prospered and grew. More land was broken each year and timber cut on the land across the river to the west. As soon as the land could be entered under the homestead laws then in force, Balser II rode Old Nig to the land office in Fort Wayne, 56 miles away, and made the necessary payments and later received deeds for some 1200 acres in Elkhart Township, Elkhart County, Indiana. He was attaining his goal, a farm for each of his children.

Balser Hess II had served three short enlistments of one year each in the War of 1812, while a resident of Franklin County, Ohio. He was stationed at Fort Meigs on the Maumee River in Ohio and other Ohio points. The records of the War Department in the office of the Adjutant General in Washington, D. C., shows one Baltzer Hess served in above war as a private in George Skidmore's Company of Riflemen, attached to the Second Regiment, Ohio Militia, commanded by Col. James Renick. For this service he received an honorable discharge and a land grant or warrant for 160 acres. He probably used this warrant for a part of above purchase. In Memorial Hall on East Broad Street, in Columbus, Ohio, on a marble plaque in honor of Franklin County soldiers of the War of 1812 is the following:

“Soldiers of the War of 1812, Residents
of Franklin County

Balser Hess

”

MAJOR JOHN H. VIOLETT

In the same year of 1829 Major John H. Violett, a major in the War of 1812, settled just south of the Hess homestead. He became the first auditor of Elkhart County. There is a traditional story in the family that the two men did not get along too well; that at the time this land was first opened for homesteading the Major remarked that he would buy the land Hess lived on and get rid of that Dutchman. If there was anything to the story, it served to put Balser Hess II on his toes, for this very thing had happened to his father a generation before at Hopetown, Ohio, in 1801. It is said he watched the Major's house and the first day he noticed him missing he asked Mrs. Violett as to his where-

abouts. She replied that he had gone to Fort Wayne on business. Whereupon Balser II saddled Old Nig and rode fifty-six miles to Fort Wayne that night, arriving before dawn, and was the first man to enter the land office that first morning of its opening. When he came out with his receipts for the initial payment he met Major, who had gone down the day before and spent the night at a hotel, and showed him the receipts which covered 1200 acres just north of the land the Major was there to enter. He then rode away in triumph. The story may be true but the writer has always doubted that the Major had any such evil intentions. The two men of course were ambitious and their interests may have clashed at times. However, I do know that when Balser Hess II saw the end of his life approaching, he called the Major to witness his will, which he later proved, and which will be copied into this account later. At this point in life one does not call his enemies, but his trusted friends. I have been inspired more by competitors than by mutual friends. Thus I believe it was with the Major and Balser II. They had gone through a war together and were comrades, had pioneered together and lived side by side for twenty-seven years. They probably had some financial battles that for a time may have irked them, but above facts indicate their relations were normal and they did trust each other, for Balser II trusted the Major to witness the last legal act of his life, and I prefer to believe his passing to be that of a close friend. This community will always be indebted to both men for the part they played in its early development. The present name of the homestead is "Sunset", one half mile south of the city limits of Goshen, now owned and occupied by Ralph S. Penn.

Balser Hess II is said to have been five feet ten and one-half inches tall, with blue eyes and olive complexion. He was quiet, good-natured and peaceable with a keen mind and strong will and with perfect control of his temper. He spoke excellent German and nearly perfect English, which was the result of the training the family received from the Eastern lady, governess in the Ohio home for several years. He followed the occupation of a farmer and stock raiser and acquired much land which he cleared and improved. He died December 16, 1856, at the homestead south of Goshen, Indiana, less than two years after his mother died at the Ohio

homestead. He is buried in Hess Cemetery, one mile west of the Indiana homestead, which was a part of the farm and was set aside for cemetery purposes in his will. His wife, Sarah Immell Hess, who died January 14, 1858, is buried by his side.

WILL OF BALSER HESS II

Will record one page 120 of the
records of Elkhart County, Indiana

I, Balser Hess of the County of Elkhart and State of Indiana, do make and publish this my last will and testament in manner and form following that is to say now being of sound mind.

First; it is my will that my funeral expenses and all my just debts be fully paid.

Second; I give devise and bequeath to my beloved wife Sarah Hess in lieu of her dower the plantation situated in section as follows; The West half of the Southwest Quarter of Section Twenty-one (21) and the East half of the Southeast Quarter of Section Twenty (20) all in Township Thirty-Six (36) north of Range six (6) East and also land warrant of 160 acres and all the notes due me and all the money on hand and all the claims on book and one \$120 note loaned to my son Israel Hess and all the household furniture all to be used by her during her natural life, according to her own pleasure, and then after her death the property to be divided among the heirs so as to make them all even when their receipts are cancelled which they have given me heretofore, after my son Jacob Hess has deeded to him the Northwest quarter of Section Fifteen (15) in Township Thirty-four (34) North of Range Three (3) east considering it to be worth Two Hundred (\$200.00) Dollars. On the above named farm I reserve in the Northeast Corner of the East One Half of the Southeast Quarter of Section Twenty (20) one (1) acre of ground running South Ten Rods and West Sixteen (16) rods along the North line for the purpose of a grave yard which is for the public.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 22nd day of May 1855.

Balser Hess Sr

Signed, Published and Declared by above named Balser Hess Sr. as and for his last will and testament in the pres-

ence of us who at his request have signed as witnesses to the same.

John H. Violett
Daniel Evans
His
Manuel X. Cripe
Mark

State of Indiana

Elkhart County, SS: I, Asa A. Norton, Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas of Elkhart County, certify that the within last will of Balser Hess Sr. late of Elkhart County, deceased has been duly proven by John H. Violett whose proof together with said will are duly recorded at the 120-121 pages of the records of Wills in our office.

In Testimony Whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of said office and Court at Goshen this 26th day of December A.D., 1856.

Asa A. Norton; clerk

State of Indiana

Elkhart County, SS:

Personally came before me Asa A. Norton, Clerk of the Elkhart Court of Common Pleas of the County of Elkhart, John H. Violett, who being duly sworn says that the paper before him purported to be the last will and testament of Balser Hess Sr. late of said county, now deceased was by the said Balser Hess Sr. signed and acknowledged and published in the presence of said deponent as his last will and testament, that the said decedent was of lawful age, that he was of sound and disposing mind and memory and under no aversion or constraint as he verily believes, that he subscribed to the same as a witness in the presence of and at the request of the said testator and in the presence of the other witnesses.

John H. Violett

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 26th day of December A.D., 1856.

Asa A. Norton, Clerk.

COMMENTS ON WILL OF BALSER HESS II

It appears from the will that Balser Hess II had accomplished his life's ambition to have a farm for each of his eleven children, and that all had been taken care of hereto-

fore, with the exception of his youngest son Jacob Hess, and the will provided for this last son. He gave the plantation (homestead) and all his personal property to the widow Sarah, for her use during her natural life, after which the property is to be divided equally among his heirs. He set aside an acre on the west of the homestead for a public cemetery, which is today the Hess Cemetery southwest of Goshen. He signed his will as Balser Hess Sr. This is due to the fact that he named his third son Balser and this son lived in the community and was the third Balser Hess, so he signed it thus to distinguish himself from this son. The will is short and comprehensive.

SARAH IMMELL HESS, WIFE OF BALSER HESS II

"Sarah Immell Hess, wife of Balser Hess the 2nd, was born February 27, 1792, on a steamboat at Mayes Licks, Boonville County, Kentucky, while her parents were enroute down the Ohio River from Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, to Kentucky, where they were going to establish a new home."

The above quotation is from the research of William Preston Brown. Uncle Press does not state his authority. However, he was gathering Hess history data as early as 1892 and must have had information I do not have. Many of her children were living in the 1890s. A geographical check of Mays Lick shows it to be about ten miles south of Maysville, Kentucky, which is on the Ohio River. There is no Boonville County in Kentucky at this late date. Both above towns are in Mason County, Kentucky, and the Ohio River is the north boundary line. The date of her birth above corresponds with other information. (Balser Hess 2nd family Bible).

Sarah Immell was the daughter of Sarah Cryder and Michael Immell, and a granddaughter of Michael Cryder and first wife Susanna Carpenter. (See Paragraph 11, Michael Cryder Will) Sarah Cryder, her mother, was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and came to Bedford County, Pennsylvania, with her parents who located at Huntingdon on the Juniata River. It is believed that it was here that she met Michael Immell,* the father of the four Immell grandchildren mentioned in Michael Cryder will. The writer searched the records of Bedford and Huntingdon Counties, Pennsylvania, and Ross County, Ohio, but could find no record of a Michael Immell who owned land or was

* See postscript, page 128.

on the tax duplicates of any of these counties at the proper time to have been the father of above four Immels. He may never have owned or been on the tax lists and as a young man migrated in 1792 to Mays Lick, Kentucky, where Sarah was born. The records of Mason County, Kentucky, have not been searched. The above move west may have been one of the reasons Michael Cryder made a prospecting trip west in 1795. If true, he already had a daughter and several grandchildren in this locality. Mays Lick, Kentucky, is about sixty miles south-west from Chillicothe, Ohio, as the crow flies. It is just south of the Ohio River, while Cryder chose his new home just north of the river on the Scioto River. This presumption seems both reasonable and logical.

In 1813 when Michael Cryder made his will, the mother of these grandchildren must have been dead. It is inferred by the fact that he gave her inheritance to the four Immells. What became of the father is not known. It is possible both were dead and Cryder raised the children.* The first named in the will is Jacob Immell, who was born May 18, 1790, and was twenty-three years old. (*Parthemore Genealogy* p. 169). The other boys named were Israel and John and were younger; in fact, they must have been still in their teens and all the boys are of Ross County, Ohio, as stated by the will. Sarah Immell was twenty-one years old and already married to Balser II and living in Franklin County, Ohio. He does not say she is of Ross County and designates her as Sarah Hess, her married name. It should be noted that above Jacob Immell was also married when this will was written. He married Catherine Byerly June 12, 1812. (*Parthemore Genealogy* p. 169).

ROSS COUNTY IMMELLS

The Hopetown Cemetery has many Immells buried there who are descendants of the above three Immell boys, grandsons of Michael Cryder. No marker could be found for a Sarah or Mary (some authorities say the mother of these Immells was Mary) or Michael Immell who would have been the right age to be the parents of the above four Immel children. Today there are fifteen or twenty Immell families in Chillicothe or vicinity who are descendants of these boys. William Immell is now serving his third term as Ross County Treasurer. Miss Elizabeth lives on the Immell homestead north of Chillicothe. Her brother George G. Immell

* See postscript, page 128.

served as a state senator in Kansas from 1924 to 1932 and is now a resident of Colorado. Another brother Charles H. Immell served as county commissioner of Ross County Ohio from 1940 until September 6, 1946 dying in his second term of office. A third brother Alfred Dunn Immell served as sheriff of Ross County, Ohio for four terms and also served one term in the Ohio State legislature as a representative from Ross County.

SARAH IMMELL HESS MOVES TO COLUMBUS, OHIO, AND ELKHART COUNTY, INDIANA

After the death of her mother, Sarah Immell and her brothers lived with her mother's people, the Cryders of Hopetown, Ohio. Two of her uncles, Henry and Emanuel Cryder, had married daughters of Balser Hess of Columbus, Ohio. Through this connection she met and married Balser Hess II April 11, 1809, and went to Columbus to live with the Hess family. Here they lived in Columbus and engaged in the bakery business for several years and then moved to Balser II's farm in Clinton Township, a part of the original Hess farm bought of Jonathan Dayton by Balser Hess. In 1829 they moved to Elkhart County, Indiana, as related under the life of her husband. While they were living here her Uncle Henry Cryder, who married her husband's sister, Mary Ann Hess, paid them a visit in 1832, as related under the life of Mary Ann Hess and Henry Cryder. After they were located as pioneers in Indiana, just south of Goshen, several of her nephews and nieces, children of her brother Jacob Immell, also migrated from Ross County, Ohio, to Elkhart County, Indiana, and there is a large descendancy of these children to be found in Elkhart County to this day. One of these nieces, her namesake Sarah Ann Immell, married her third son Balser Hess III. This intermarriage, which was a first cousin marriage, with both couples having the same names, has made much confusion in the records of the two families.

She spent the last thirty years of her life at the pioneer home just south of Goshen. She lived fourteen months after the passing of her husband, Balser Hess II. She died January 14, 1858, and is buried with her husband in the Hess Cemetery at Goshen. Being only seventeen years old when married her life's story is largely the story of Balser

Hess II. This marriage lasted nearly forty-eight years and was dissolved by death.

She is described as a woman of good size, physically strong and healthy. I have before me, on the wall of my office, a beautifully enlarged picture of her. She was my father's grandmother and he had the picture enlarged from a tin-type forty or fifty years ago. She is dressed in a black dress trimmed in white lace, has on a white lace cap and black net mitts. Her hair is combed straight, parted in the middle, Spanish style, and appears jet black without a trace of any grey. She has comely features, a well formed nose, high forehead, kindly eyes, a firm mouth and strong chin.

Both Sarah and her husband belonged to the Baptist Church. It is claimed he was the first to suggest the name Goshen for the town when founded in 1831. Since he was a preacher and a farmer, that name would have been a natural for him to suggest. It is certain they were religiously inclined, and being financially well-to-do for that day, they were good to the poor and unfortunate, always ready to lend a helping hand. Their door was never closed to the early pioneers. Prior to the Civil War their home was an underground station for escaping slaves making their way to Canada.

John R. Hess, the writer's uncle, spent several years in the home of his Grandfather Hess, with his sister Cass (Lape) when they were children, and had lost their mother, Barbara Rohrer. I have heard him tell many tales of his days in their home and his school days at Waterford, one-half mile south. Uncle John thought they were "tops." He could have been just a little prejudiced, due to the liberties allowed them by doting grandparents. When their father John Hess married Hannah Clemens in 1853, they returned to their father's home near Lake Wawasee. I suspect these children would have sooner remained with their grandparents at Goshen, as Uncle John could never forget those days as a boy and was always ready to eulogize Grandmother and Grandfather Hess.

CHILDREN OF BALSER HESS II AND SARAH IMMELL

The family record of Balser Hess II and Sarah Immell Hess copied from the record kept in the family Bible published in Philadelphia in 1824 by Kimber and Sharpless, is in the handwriting of

Balser II himself and is in an excellent state of preservation. The Bible came down through the family of Balser Hess III and was last owned by his son James Hess, the youngest grandson of Balser II and Sarah Immell Hess, and was purchased by the writer from James Hess some years ago. It is now 125 years old, has been rebound and should endure another 125 years.

F. E. H.

FAMILY RECORD

MARRIAGES

We joined the bonds of Matrimony April the 11 in the of our Lord 1809. (Note, he omitted the word year; it is not my omission).

FAMILY RECORD

BIRTHS

Bolser Hess Snr. was born February the 14th yr. 1786.

Sarah Hess was born February the 27th yr. 1792.

Our son John Hess was born August 10, 1810.

Our son Elias Hess was born March the 10th yr. 1812.

Our Daughter Mary Eve Hess was born July 6 year 1813

Our Daughter Sally Ann Hess was born July 10 yr. 1815.

Our Son Bolser Hess was born January the 26 yr. 1817.

Our too sons Moses & Israel Hess were borne Sept. 28 in the year 1818.

Our sone Ezra Hess was borne November the 25 year 1820.

Our Sone Daniel Hess was borne September the 28 in the year of our Lord 1822.

Our Sone Horatio Hess was borne February the 3 in the yr. 1824.

Our Daughter Emily Hess was borne August the 1 in the yr. 1825.

Our Daughter Martha Hess was born September the 19th in the yr. 1827.

Our Sone Jacob Hess was borne June the 20 in the yr. 1830.

Our Daughter Lydia Hess was born January the 20th in the year 1832.

Our Daughter Catherine Hess was born December the 24 In the year of our Lord 1834.



John Hess born 8-10-1810, Columbus, Ohio. Married Barbara Rohrer 11-12-1834. She died 8-19-1846. Married Hannah Rowand Clemens 10-11-1853. He died at Syracuse, Indiana, 3-22-1872. Burial Sparklin Cemetery, Goshen, Indiana. Author's grandfather.



Hannah Rowand Clemens Hess 1817-1886 second wife of John Hess.
Reading left to right are her four sons.

Henry Balser Hess at 15	b 9-13-1857
John G. Clemens	b 3-12-1842
Francis Clemens	b 1839
Commodore Clemens (seated)	b 1837

John, Francis and Joseph all enlisted in the Civil War at Camp Ellis, located on Hess homestead near Goshen and owned by Elias Hess. Joseph was killed in September, 1862. This is writer's grandmother.

DEATHS

Our Daughter Sally Ann Hess departed this life October the 15 in the year 1816.

Our Sone Ezra departed this life November the 10 yr. 1822.

Our Sone Horatio Hess departed this life October 17 in the yr. 1824.

Our Daughter Catherine Hess departed this life June 22 in the year of our Lord 1839.

(The following record of death of the parents is in different handwriting, probably of Balser Hess III.)

Bolser Hess Senr Died Dec. 16, 1856.

Sarah Hess Senr Died Jan. 12th, 1858.

(He puts Senr after each to distinguish between himself and father and his mother and wife as they had exactly the same name in each case).

Note: This is an exact copy of the record. Note the difference in spelling son- born- too sons. He was an excellent scribe.

F.E.H.

3—1. JOHN HESS, 1810-1872

John Hess was born at the home of his grandmother Hess, on the Columbus, Ohio homestead August 10, 1810. He spent his early years on the west 140 acres of this homestead, which his father inherited. In 1829 the family moved to Elkhart County, Indiana. Being nineteen years old, strong and muscular, he took the place of a man in clearing and building log cabins for the family. On November 12, 1834, he married Barbara Rohrer of New Paris, Indiana, and they set up a home and started farming in Kosciusko County, six miles south of Syracuse, Indiana, on a farm provided by his father. The records show that he entered considerable land in this vicinity in his own right in the late 1830s. The first wife Barbara Rohrer died August 19, 1846, leaving him with five small children, Mary (Huff); Ephraim; Catherine (Lape); John R. and Sarah Ann (Brower). This is when John R. and Catherine (Cass) spent some years in the home of their grandparents near Goshen as heretofore mentioned. On October 11, 1853 he married Hannah Rowand (Clemens) a widow from Wolf Lake, Indiana, with four half grown boys, Commodore; Francis; John and Joseph. The two families were brought

together into one household. Henry B. was born September 13, 1857 and was the connecting tie of the two families. The three last named Clemens boys enlisted in the Union Army, at Camp Ellis, which was on the Hess homestead at Goshen, then owned by Elias Hess, brother of their stepfather John. Joseph was killed in the battle of Iuka in 1862. Mary the eldest daughter married Fred Huff and they moved to Lynn County, Kansas, before the start of the Civil War. John Hess followed this family to Kansas during the war but returned at its close to his Kosciusko County farm, where he spent his closing years. He died March 22, 1872, and is buried with his first wife in the Sparklin Cemetery, four miles south of Goshen. The Hess farm, one and one-half miles south of Syracuse, is a landmark and was built by and occupied by his son John R. Hess for over fifty years. It is now owned by his daughter Retta Hess.

Many are the stories told of the unusual physical strength and feats of John Hess. He was a large man, being nearly six feet tall and weighing 250 pounds in his prime. Uncle Press Brown, in his findings, devotes nearly two pages to these tales which might be included in a larger book but which we must pass here. Suffice it to say he was known as the strong man and bully because of his episodes in the south half of Elkhart and the north half of Kosciusko Counties. If these tales are true they probably shortened his life, as he was given a physique that should have lasted a hundred years, but lasted only sixty-two. I have an excellent picture of John Hess in my office which indicates above truths.

The writer is a grandson of John Hess, through his youngest son Henry B. Hess, a resident of Goshen for forty years, who was born on the Kosciusko County farm September 13, 1857, and died at the home of his daughter, Addie C. Taylor, in Cincinnati, Ohio, April 21, 1930, with whom he spent the last six years of his life. He was married twice, first to Mary Mellinger of Kosciusko County, who died in 1883; second to Sarah Ann Rensberger of Elkhart County, on January 1, 1888, and moved to Goshen. The children who reached maturity are Grace E. (Bird) by the first marriage and Frank E., and Charles W. and Addie C. (Taylor) by the second marriage.



Standing—left to right: Louis J. Hess, Erastus J. Hess, Jasper N. Hess, Enoch W. Hess, Henry G. Hess.
Sitting—left to right: Levi M. Hess, Elias Hess (Father) Susannah Hess Sutton, Isaiah Hess.



Elias Hess born 3-10-1812, Columbus, Ohio. Married Lucinda Wright 7-10-1834. Died 10-19-1894. Buried Maple Grove Cemetery, Argos, Indiana. Built brick house on Green, Indiana, homestead about 1860.

3—2. ELIAS HESS, 1812-1894

Elias Hess was born March 10, 1812, in the then village of Columbus, Ohio, where his father was engaged in the bakery business. When he was small the family moved to the Hess homestead to the northwest of town where they engaged in farming. Here Elias spent his early boyhood in Clinton Township. In 1829, when he was seventeen, the family moved to Goshen, Indiana, where he helped build the pioneer home and grew to manhood. He was first married to Lucinda Wright of New Paris, Indiana, by whom he had thirteen children who grew to maturity. Late in life he married Delilah Beckner (Tatum). He started farming with his first wife just west of the present Hess homestead, on land entered by his father and given him as his inheritance. Here most of his large family was born.

In 1848 gold was discovered in California. Milton Mercer, a pioneer resident of Goshen, had made a trip to California and staked out a claim, but because of illness returned home and induced Elias Hess to go west and work his claim. Leaving Goshen on Christmas Day of 1849, he made the trip by way of New York City, the Isthmus of Panama, San Francisco, and then inland to the Mercer claim. Wm. Preston Brown in his papers, gives a full account and many interesting stories and experiences of Uncle Elias's quest for gold. Suffice it to say he was fairly successful and returned to Goshen in 1852 with some gold which he wisely invested and became financially well-to-do. I am sure that his ability as a wise investor far exceeded his ability as a gold prospector.

It is believed he stopped on the return trip, which was the reverse of his trip out, at Columbus, Ohio, to see his Grandmother Hess, whom he had not seen since the family left Columbus twenty-three years before when he was seventeen years old, but who still lived and was now almost ninety. Elias's younger brother Mose had also gone to California seeking gold in 1848 and returned one year ahead of Elias, and is said to have also stopped to see his ageing grandmother. These must have been real reunions. It must have been a source of pride to look down from ninety and see these prosperous, middle aged grandsons, much traveled for that day and men of affairs and standing. Many of her grandchildren were now heads of large families, as was the

case of Elias Hess, taking possession of the then "Promised Land," the middle west. Few humans are permitted this unusual experience.

Elias returned to Goshen to find his father and mother ageing and in declining health. Arrangements were made for him to move into the homestead and care for both till death. He farmed the place and is said to have had several wonderful crops which sold at high prices for that day, probably due to the approach of the Civil War. His father died December 16, 1856, and the mother January 14, 1858. Under the terms of the will this homestead was to be sold after the death of the mother; Elias bought it and in 1858 or 1859 built the present brick house.

At the outbreak of the Civil War Camp Ellis was established on the homestead, just across the road east from the house. Here three of his sons, (Ezra, Levi M. and Isaiah), his youngest brother Jacob and many others of the family enlisted in 1861 at the call of Father Abraham for volunteers.

In 1853 just after his return from California he joined Goshen Lodge Number 12 F. and A. M. (Masons) of which the writer is historian. The next year three of his sons joined the same lodge. This has always seemed just a little unusual, since his brother Israel was very much opposed to all secret societies and especially the Masons, and made many speeches in opposition to them and took part in many debates on the subject. Uncle Israel was well informed on his subject and is said to have been a good public speaker in his day, and one of the best known men in the southeast part of the county, because of his ability. It is consoling to know that brothers in that day, as in this, could not see alike.

In 1868 he sold the homestead, held public sale and on March 10, 1868, moved to Argos, Marshall County, Indiana. Here he bought land which he sold in 1883 and moved to Marshfield County, Missouri. He died at Bois D'Arc, Missouri, October 29, 1894, and is buried in Maple Grove Cemetery, Argos, Indiana.

Elias Hess is pictured as a stalwart, Christian gentleman, well read for his day, a fine farmer, careful financier, a keen observer, a builder and probably the favorite son of his father.

His children, in the order of their birth, are as follows: Ezra, Jane (Overlees), Belinda, (Macomber), Levi M. Isaiah, Jasper N., Sarah (Cogswell), Enoch W., Jessie, Erastus J., Susannah (Sutton), Chauncey, Lewis J., and Henry G.

Wright L. Hess, who collected much history of the family, was a grandson through the youngest son Henry. He worked with Wm. Preston Brown and to them we are indebted for much information. Lora Mainard is a great-granddaughter through Jane Overlees and has served as secretary of the Hess Reunion for many years and is now working on the family genealogy and to her we are indebted for much information and help.

His descendants are many. It is by far the largest branch of the family. The first reunion was started by his son Erastus fifty years ago. I have on the wall of my office a fine enlarged picture of Elias Hess, given to me years ago by his granddaughter, Mellie Macomber West. It was displayed at the one hundredth anniversary of Goshen Lodge #12 F. and A. M. as the oldest member of whom we have a picture.

3—3. MARY EVE HESS WEYBRIGHT, 1813-1890

Mary Eve Hess was born July 6, 1813, in the then village of Columbus, Ohio. When a child she moved with her family to the Hess farm in Clinton Township, Franklin County, where she lived till the family pioneered in Elkhart County, Indiana, in 1829, when she was sixteen years old. She must have been much help in caring for the younger children and helping her mother in the laborious tasks of providing for this large family during the trip and in setting up the first home. A family named Weybright settled about the same time just south of New Paris. Here she met a son of this family, Jacob Weybright, and on December 15, 1831, they were married, she being the first of the Elkhart County Hess family to marry and leave the parental home. She had nine children by Jacob, as follows:

3—3—1. Martin H. Weybright (10-14-1832-)
m. Margaret J. Overly.

3—3—2. Sarah Weybright (1-1-1834-4-21-1914) m.
Samuel Cryder Ridgway (7-7-1830-8-11-1912).

- 3—3—3. Bolser I. Weybright (6-11-1835-) m.
Mary Catherine Gant. (Moved to Washington—
descendants unknown).
- 3—3—4. Jacob Weybright (2-1-1837) m. Sarah
Jane Eddy. (Moved to Minnesota—descendants
unknown).
- 3—3—5. Christina Weybright (8-25-1838-) m.
(1) Samuel Smith, m. (2) Hiram S. Eddy.
- 3—3—6. Mary Eve Weybright (7-17-1840 - 1-25-
1907) m. Michael Rothrock (6-1-1833-Feb.
1911).
- 3—3—7. Emily Weybright (5-31-1842-3-12-1924) m.
David Ulery (1-9-1842-2-14-1925).
- 3—3—8. John C. Weybright (2-4-1844-) m.
Mary Jane Raffe.
- 3—3—9. Martha Hess Weybright (1-10-1846-)
m. Lyman G. Stowe.
- After the death of Jacob, Mary Eve married his
brother, Daniel Weybright, on September 15,
1849, by whom she had two children, as follows:
- 3—3—10. Daniel P. Hess Weybright (8-25-1850-
) m. Sarah Matilda Smitzer.
- 3—3—11. Rebecca Hess Weybright (10-27-1853)
m. A. Le Navone.

In May of 1860 the family moved to Douglas County, Kansas. On September 18, 1879, she moved to Napa County, California. On January 30, 1889, she moved to Illinois where she died August 13, 1890, aged 77 years, 1 month and 7 days. The Weybright family were members of the German Baptist Brethren Church, now the Church of the Brethren, and she early affiliated with this denomination, in which she and both her husbands were active all their lives. She was buried in the Pleasant Hill Cemetery about four miles southwest of Virden, Illinois.

3—4. SALLY ANN HESS, 1815-1816

Sally Ann Hess was born at Columbus, Ohio, July 10, 1815 and died October 15, 1816, when a little over a year old.

3—5. BALSER HESS III, 1817-1894

Balser Hess III was born January 26, 1817, in Columbus, Ohio, just south of the Broad Street bridge on the Scioto River. He moved with the family to the Hess farm in Clin-

ton Township, when a child and from there to Elkhart County, Indiana, in 1829 when twelve years of age, where he grew to manhood. He married Sarah Ann Immell, born April 24, 1824, a daughter of Jacob Immell who was a brother of his mother Sarah Immell, in Chillicothe, Ross County, Ohio, on May 7, 1840. He returned with his bride to Elkhart County, Indiana, May 20, 1840, where he located and engaged in farming. His wife Sarah Ann died March 28, 1874, of tuberculosis and he subsequently married a widow, Mary Ann Truex (Fulton) who was the widow of John Fulton, who had five children. He lived his entire life in or near Goshen, farming being his principal occupation. He was ordained and licensed to preach in the Old School Baptist Church and is said to have been a good defender of the faith as practiced by this denomination. He was studious and a good reader, not too ambitious in the acquisition of this world's goods, took life in stride, and was agreeable and easy going. He preached against all kinds of monopoly of wealth and cooperatives, believing them to be against the public welfare. In fact it is said that Uncle Balt was never too busy to discuss and expound his religious and economic beliefs and theories to anyone who would lend an attentive ear. He spent his last years at his home at 519 South Tenth Street in Goshen where he died June 11, 1894, of Bright's Disease. He is buried in the Hess Cemetery with his first wife, who was the mother of his eight children who grew to maturity. He had lived seventy-seven years, four months and twenty-five days. His funeral is the first funeral the writer can remember attending as a child. His children are as follows:

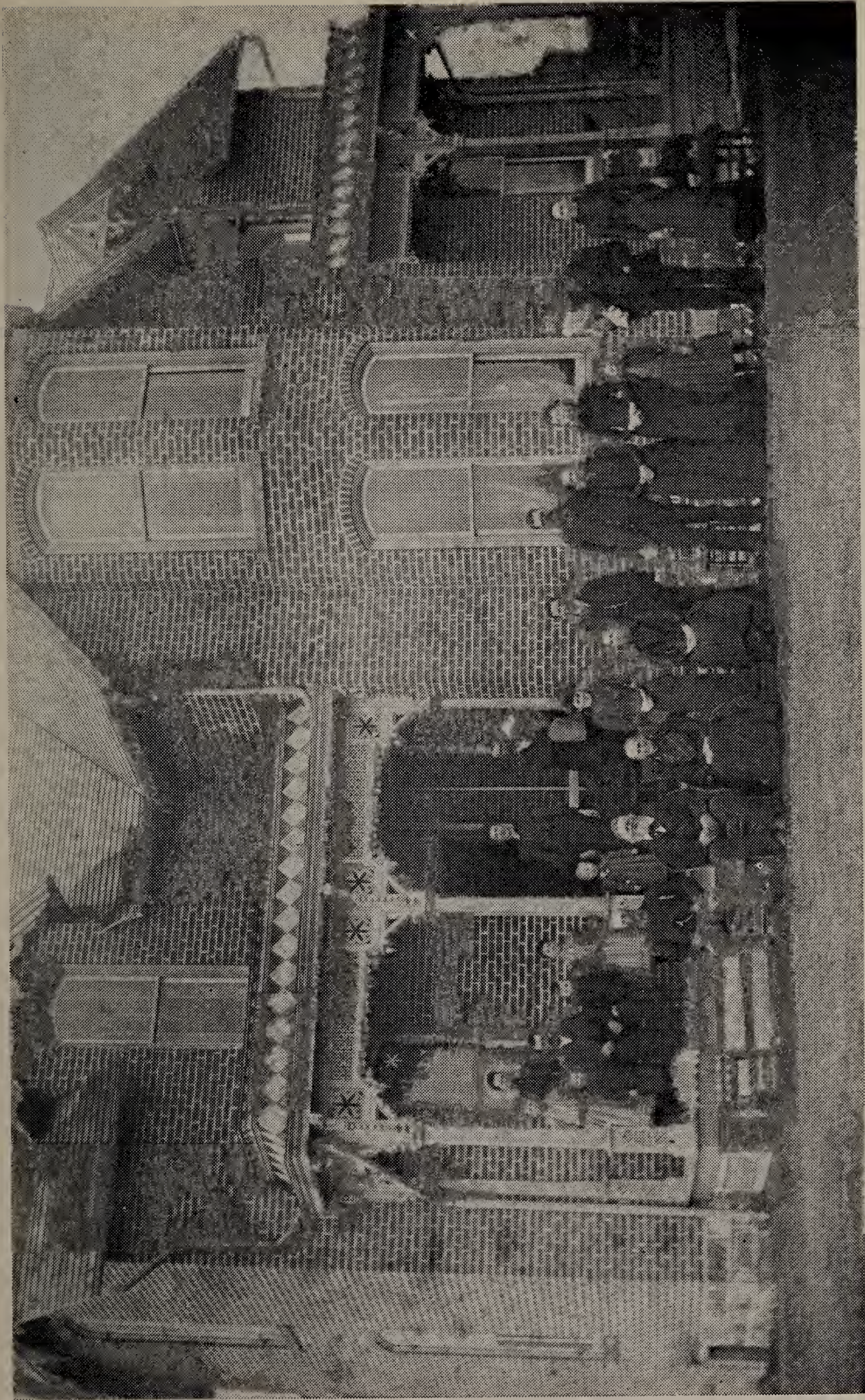
- 3—5—1. Romanus Quincy Hess (2-28-1841-9-20-1863). Enlisted in the Union Army at Camp Ellis located on the Hess homestead; killed in the battle of Chickamauga,, September 29, 1863.
- 3—5—2. Eva Hess (11-10-1842-2-9-1843).
- 3—5—3. Anah Hess (10-19-1846-9-4-1847).
- 3—5—4. Emily Hess (1-5-1847-4-12-1849).
- 3—5—5. Pulcharia M. Hess (9-10-1850-12-27-1871) m. James F. Ayers.
- 3—5—6. George Bolser Hess IV (3-10-1853-June, 1924) m. Beckie Huston.

- 3—5—7. Lucy Jane Hess (4-1-1855-1-8-1935) m. Samuel Dietz.
- 3—5—8. Aeneas Hess (4-18-1859-?) m. Isaac Henry Cripe (12-27-1852-9-8-1919).
- 3—5—9. Josephus Hess (1-13-1861-1-5-1925) m. Philema Isora Harden (1864-1931).
- 3-5-10. Mary Ellen Hess (2-20-1864-10-15-1941) m. (1) William Faust (2) Edward E. Vinton (3) Alva Mullinkin.
- 3—5—11. James Luther Hess (1869- ?) never married.

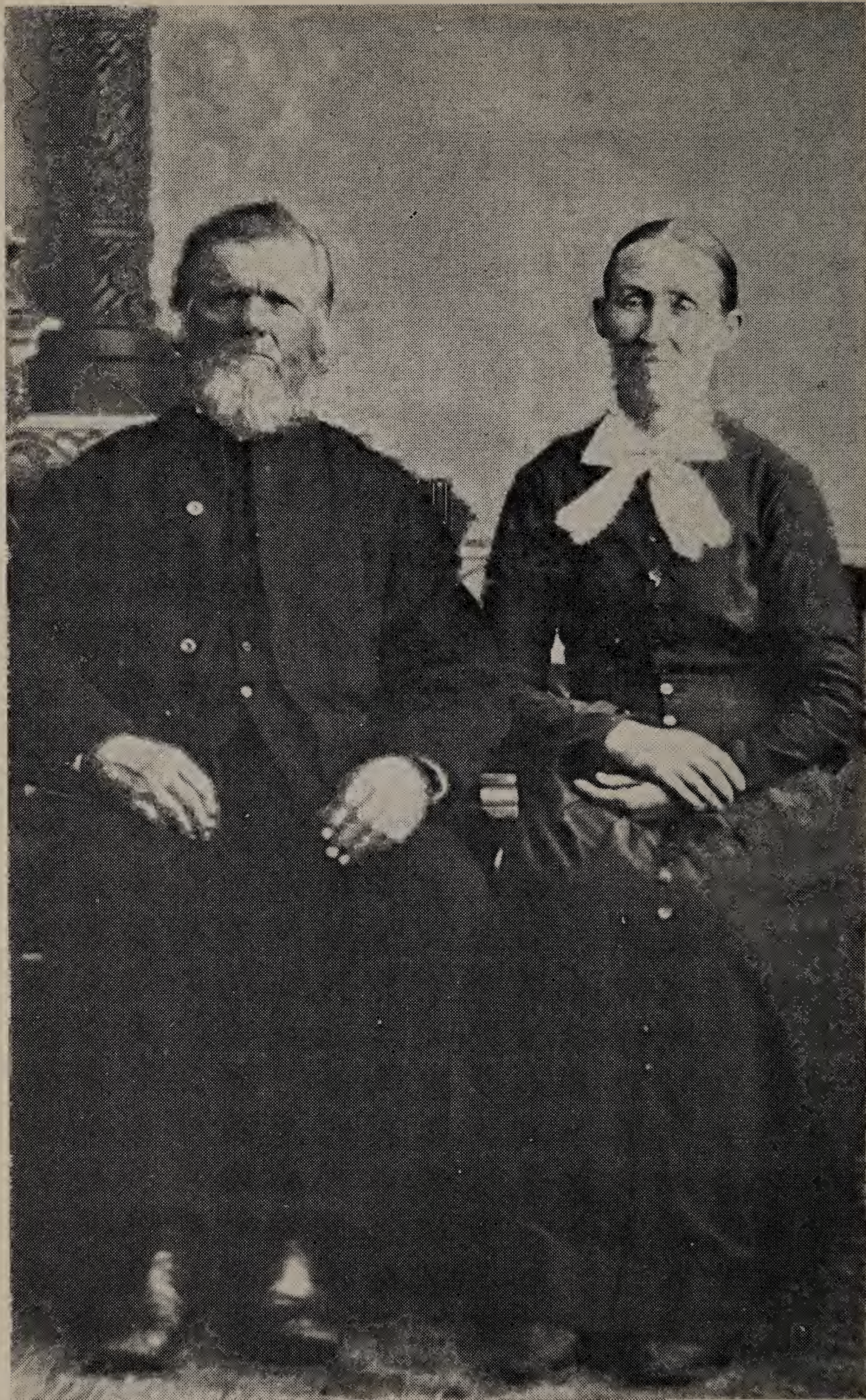
3—6. MOSES HESS, 1818-1880.

Mose Hess was born on the Hess homestead, Columbus, Ohio, September 28, 1818. He came with the family to Elkhart County, Indiana in 1829, when ten years old, where he grew to manhood. He was still single and just thirty when gold was discovered in California. He was among the thousands of adventurous gold seekers who made that far west trip in 1848-49. His brother Elias made the same trip in 1849, but it is doubtful if they saw each other while in California, as communication was difficult and secrecy oftentimes the reason for success. The details of his trip are unknown to the writer. It is presumed that he was awarded with some degree of success, as he returned to Goshen and later owned much land and was financially independent the rest of his life and left a large estate for his day. He platted several additions to the west side of the City of Goshen.

He was ordained as a minister in the Dunkard Church, now the Church of the Brethren, and is said to have been above the average as an expounder and advocate of the church and its doctrines. He was a large, stern-looking man with a heavy beard, weighing around 250 pounds, and the writer's mother often heard him preach in the old Solomon's Creek Church, when she was a child and young woman. She said if there ever was a man she as a child was afraid of, it was Mose Hess, and then some years later she married his nephew Henry B. Hess. He was an excellent conversationalist and when so engaged lost all sense of time. Hiram Forney, a nephew by marriage, used to tell the following story on Uncle Mose. In March of 1872, he started to attend the funeral services of his oldest brother John, the writer's grandfather, of Kosciusko County, and fell into conversa-



Israel Hess Homestead, Elkhart Prairie, Goshen, Indiana. Israel Hess and wife Rosa and children and grandchildren. Taken June 25, 1892. From James Hess collection, Columbus, Ohio.



Israel Hess 1818-1904. Rosa Cripe Hess 1830-1905. Married 12-24-1852.
Burial Hess Cemetery, Goshen, Indiana.

tion with a friend on the way and failed to reach the appointed place for the service and barely reached the cemetery in time for the last rites there.

He married Mary Beckner September 19, 1855, and lived on a farm two miles northwest of Goshen on the old Goshen-Elkhart Road. His son Aaron lived there his entire life of over eighty years. Moses Hess died December 12, 1880, aged sixty-two, and is buried with his wife in the Hess Cemetery at Goshen. He left a very interesting will disposing of a large estate and containing some unusual provisions, which we must pass in this booklet. He had four children:

3—6—1. Aaron I. Hess (4-9-1860-11-14-1946) m. Anna B. Buzzard.

3—6—2. Elhanan W. Hess (?-9-24-1940) m. Elizabeth Berkey.

3—6—3. Horatius Hess (? -4-19-1914) m. Martha Ganger.

3—6—4. Lanah Hess (1-14-1867-12-23-1940) never married.

3—7. ISRAEL HESS, 1818-1904

Israel Hess was born September 28, 1818, on the Hess homestead at Columbus, Ohio. He was a twin of above Moses. He came to Elkhart County, Indiana, in 1829, at the age of ten. He grew to manhood on the Goshen homestead just south of Goshen. The story is told that while his twin brother prospected for gold in California, Israel married Moses's fiancée. True or not, he married Rosa Cripe December 24, 1852, and started farming in Kosciusko County, near his brother John, on what is now Vauter Park on Lake Wawasee. He later sold this farm and returned to Elkhart Prairie, on the Fort Wayne Road, where he spent the rest of his life. He, like his twin brother, was an interesting conversationalist and good story teller. He was opposed to all insurance and to all secret societies and debated and spoke frequently on these subjects. Anti-Masonry became a hobby and he spoke often against this Order, which was a much discussed subject of his day.

Many are the stories told about Uncle Israel. William Preston Brown in his papers has several which we must pass for this booklet, but will give just one of our own knowledge. Israel was called as a witness in a lawsuit. When asked his name he replied, "Hess." The attorney

asked him to state his first name. He replied, "Hess." After some insistence on his full name the attorney appealed to the court to instruct Mr. Hess to give his full name, including his first name. The court ruled he must. Israel then replied that he had told the truth. He said his first name was Hess but that when he was born he was the second of twins and the parents, not having selected a name in advance, some days later decided to call him Israel, and that was his second name.

Israel spent four years when a young man, from 1840 to 1844, in the home of his Aunt Mary Eve Cryder, his father's sister who married Emanuel Cryder and lived at Hopetown, Ohio, probably on the farm cleared by Balser Hess and which he had lost to Michael Cryder through delay in entering the same as heretofore related. He tells in his memories of meeting several other Hesses in 1844 in Ross County. They all bore a great likeness and all felt sure they were rather closely related, but proof seemed to be lacking. This meeting was held in Chillicothe, Ohio, on New Year's Day of 1844 and there were eight Hesses present in the home of Samuel Hess. One thing is certain. If Uncle Israel was within fifty miles of his Grandmother Hess for four years, he saw her many times during this stay with his Aunt Eve. This conclusion is based on the writer's knowledge of his ability as a mixer, conversationalist, story teller and his interest in his father's family. He was eleven years old when the family left for Indiana, and having lived just across the fields from his grandmother the first ten years of his life, he knew her well, and for him not to have spent some time with her, telling of the wonders of Elkhart County, and the prosperity of her sons and grandchildren there, would be unthinkable. His Uncle Mose Hess also lived with his grandmother during this time and was not slow as a visitor and had stopped in the home of his older brother, Israel's father, several times on his way to and from the home of Henry and Mary Ann Cryder near Morris, Illinois.

He was a well and widely known character, a trifle eccentric, mixed with good humor and wit. The writer as a boy thought he was better than a circus clown and had many a laugh at his oddities and his ability to plague children and play tricks. He died April 19, 1904, and is buried with his wife in the Hess Cemetery southwest of Goshen. So

closed the life of the most colorful of this large pioneer family and one of the most colorful of Elkhart County pioneers. He had eight children as follows:

- 3—7—1. Mary Eve Hess (11-28-1853- ?) m. Lee Smith.
- 3—7—2. Susannah Hess (12-23-1855-6-5-1861).
- 3—7—3. Seymour Hess (12-21-1857-4-27-1941) m. Mrs. Lottie Elizabeth Cobbum.
- 3—7—4. Moses Hess (12-1-1859-6-10-1943) m. Viola Bollinger.
- 3—7—5. Cassius M. C. Hess (9-18-62-) m. Maggie Holsinger.
- 3—7—6. Martha Hess (9-9-65-) m. (1) Rudolph E. Bollinger (2) Jacob E. Baker.
- 3—7—7. Nancy Hess (4-9-1868-1-29-1944) m. Dick Moseman.
- 3—7—8. Ida Luella Hess (5-6-1871-) m. (1) James Roach (2) ----- Stiver (3) ----- Potter.

3—8. EZRA HESS, 1820-1822

Ezra Hess was born on the Hess homestead at Columbus November 28, 1820, and died at the place of birth November 10, 1822. Because of this premature death the name of Ezra has been perpetuated in several branches of the family, the writer's middle name being Ezra.

3—9. DANIEL HESS, 1822-1905

Daniel Hess was born September 28, 1822, on the Hess homestead in Clinton Township, Franklin County Ohio, and was brought to the Elkhart County, Indiana, pioneer home with the family in 1829 at the age of six. Here he grew to manhood on the farm one mile south of Goshen. On December 10, 1845, he married Esther Miller and they moved to a farm southwest of Goshen, which had been entered by his father and now became his inheritance. It is adjoining this farm on the south that the Hess Cemetery is located, under the will of Balser Hess II. Daniel's farm was passed on to his son, the late Rev. William Hess, and is now owned by his son Dale Hess, who is the fourth generation owner. Dale has the distinction of being the only member of the family to own a part of the original entries of Balser Hess II, which originally totaled twelve hundred acres, in Elkhart

Township. This farm has been in the family from entry to now, nearly 120 years. While the farm was owned by the late Rev. William, the writer helped make hay and gather sugar-water here numerous times as a boy, in company with William's son Leonard, now deceased.

Uncle Dan was a prosperous farmer, a quiet careful business man with no fling for pomp, show or adventure, but conservative and successful. He retired from farming and moved to West Goshen where he and his wife spent their declining years, and where the writer knew them well and, again with above Leonard, ate cookies many times in Aunt Esther's kitchen. Aunt was a devoted worker in the West Goshen Church of the Brethren all her life. Uncle Dan was not a member or a church man, but was naturally kind and generous in disposition. He was nearer a father to the writer's father than any other member of the family. John Hess, my grandfather, died when father was fifteen, he being the youngest of the John Hess family. He was therefore the nearest my grandfather on the Hess side. When the panic of 1892-3 struck, father was beset by financial difficulties, involving the possible loss of his Goshen home. It was to Uncle Dan that he went for aid, which was given, and which was subsequently repaid. Uncle Dan was a good judge of human nature, always ready to lend a helping hand where honesty and integrity were in evidence. As a boy and young man I worked for the Goshen Milling Co. and here Uncle Dan traded wheat for flour and bought feed and I waited on him numerous times. His means of transportation during these last years was a well built, one horse spring wagon, drawn by a beautiful, archnecked, dappled grey horse, sleek and fat as a mole. This, driven by a large six foot venerable looking, white haired and white bearded man of eighty, dressed in a sheep lined coat and slouch hat is the writer's picture of Daniel Hess. He died in West Goshen, April 7, 1905, and with his wife is buried in the Hess Cemetery, which joins the farm on which he spent his active life.

So passed one of the noblest of the pioneering Hesses. He had seven children that grew to maturity. His children were:

3—9—1. Louisa Hess (? -4-3-1928) m. Samuel Buz-
zard.

- 3—9—2. Vernon Hess (died in childhood).
- 3—9—3. Felix Hess (7-9-51-) m. Aneliza Parilee Beckner (1857-1921).
- 3—9—4. Angeline Hess m. Jacob Longanecker.
- 3—9—5. Ida Hess (?-Nov., 1910) m. Martin Cripe.
- 3—9—6. Chloe Hess m. David Domer
- 3—9—7. Emma Hess m. Albert Menaugh.
- 3—9—8. William Hess (5-6-1860-5-12-1940) m. (1) Mary Weber, (2) Emma Miller.
- 3—9—9. Dora.
- 3—9—10. Ellen.
- 3—9—11. Jerome.

3—10. HORATIO HESS, 1824-1824

Horatio Hess was born on the Hess homestead in Clinton Township, Franklin County, Ohio, on February 18, 1824, and died in infancy the same year on October 7.

3—11. EMILY HESS BAKER, 1825-1903

Emily Hess was born August 1, 1825, on the Hess homestead near Columbus, Ohio. At the age of three she was brought with the family to Elkhart County, Indiana, and grew to womanhood on the Hess homestead south of Goshen. On October 8, 1846, she was married to William L. Baker of Waterford Mills. They lived on a farm west of Waterford, where the family was reared. After the death of William Baker she married John Thomas, and spent her declining years in and near Bremen, Indiana. Little is known to the writer about this family. The one best known to all the family was Mary Baker McDonald, a daughter, who was secretary of the Hess reunion for twenty-five years and in the early years of the reunion knew more of and about the family than any other Hess. She was a widow for many years and taught school in Elkhart County for many years, the writer's wife being one of her pupils. She died in Warsaw, Indiana, April 27, 1932, and is buried in the Milford Cemetery. Her granddaughter, Mary McDonald, first married Gerald McDonald and after his death married Guy McDonald and is a resident of Goshen and a regular attendant at the Hess Reunion. Emily Baker died at Huntington, Indiana, August 9, 1903, at the home of a daughter, Mrs. Levi (Lydia) Pownall. Funeral services were held at Napanee, Indiana, and she is buried in Sparklin Cemetery on

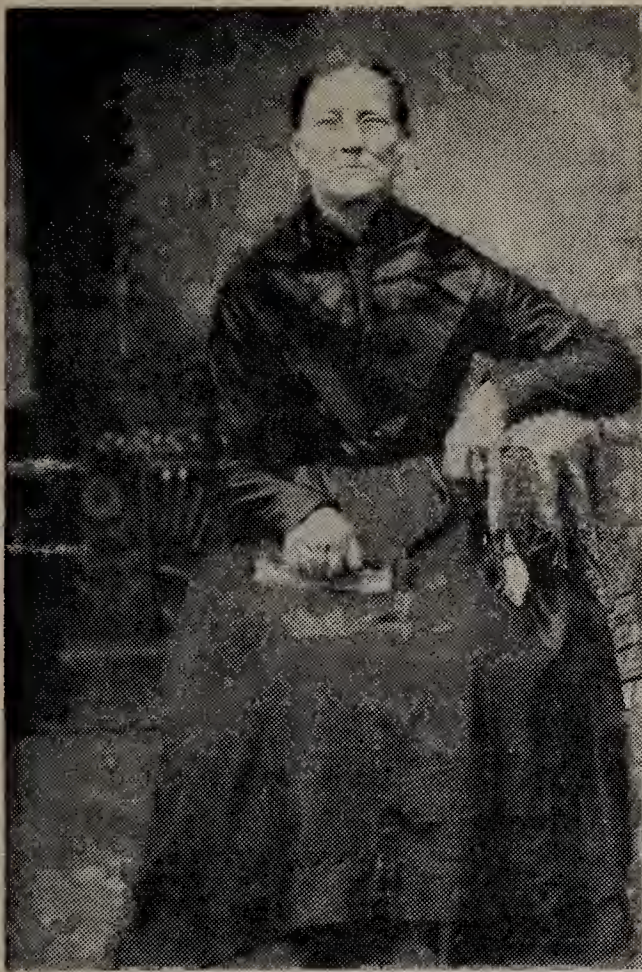
State Route 15, south of Goshen. She had the following children:

- 3—11—1. Mary L. Baker (9-30-1847-4-27-1932) m. Thomas McDonald.
- 3—11—2. Leander J. Baker (7-12-1849-10-11-1938) m. Christena Huffer.
- 3—11—3. William N. Baker (10-10-50-4-1-39) m. Katie -----.
- 3—11—4. Moses N. Baker (2-5-1855-3-8-1931) m. Nettie Stewart.
- 3—11—5. Israel Amos Baker (3-14-57-3-13-1928) m. Sarah Catherine Schrofe.
- 3—11—6. Lydia E. Baker (1-26-1860-12-15-1915) m. (1) Jordan Bechnell, m. (2) Levi Pownall.
- 3—11—7. Warren S. Baker (7-14-1861-1-17-1929) m. Amy E. Frask.
- 3—11—8. Sarah Elizabeth Baker (6-8-1863-8-6-1911) m. Rev. John A. Farmer.

3—12. MARTHA HESS RENSBERGER, 1827-1908

Martha Hess was born September 19, 1827, on the Hess homestead at Columbus, Ohio, being the last child born at the Ohio home. She was brought to Elkhart County, Indiana, in 1829, being a year and a half old, and was carried much of the way by her father and older brothers, John and Elias. Here she grew to maturity and on March 30, 1854, was married by the Rev. Jacob Studebaker to Samuel Rensberger, who was born June 15, 1831, at Summitsville, Pennsylvania. He was the son of Jacob Rensberger and Frances Hostetler who homesteaded in the late 1830s three miles east of Goshen, at what is now Rensberger School. They bought the Rensberger home of his father, Jacob Rensberger, and immediately located on this farm, where they lived for nearly sixty years, with a short move into Goshen during declining years, then back to the farm where they erected a small house and lived to the end of life.

Samuel Rensberger was an uncle to my mother and Martha Hess an aunt to father. Due to the double relationship I was frequently in this home as a child. Aunt Martha possessed a keen mind, an excellent memory, and was filled with family anecdotes and family traditions concerning her father and grandfather Hess and especially the military service of the latter in the Revolutionary War. She could



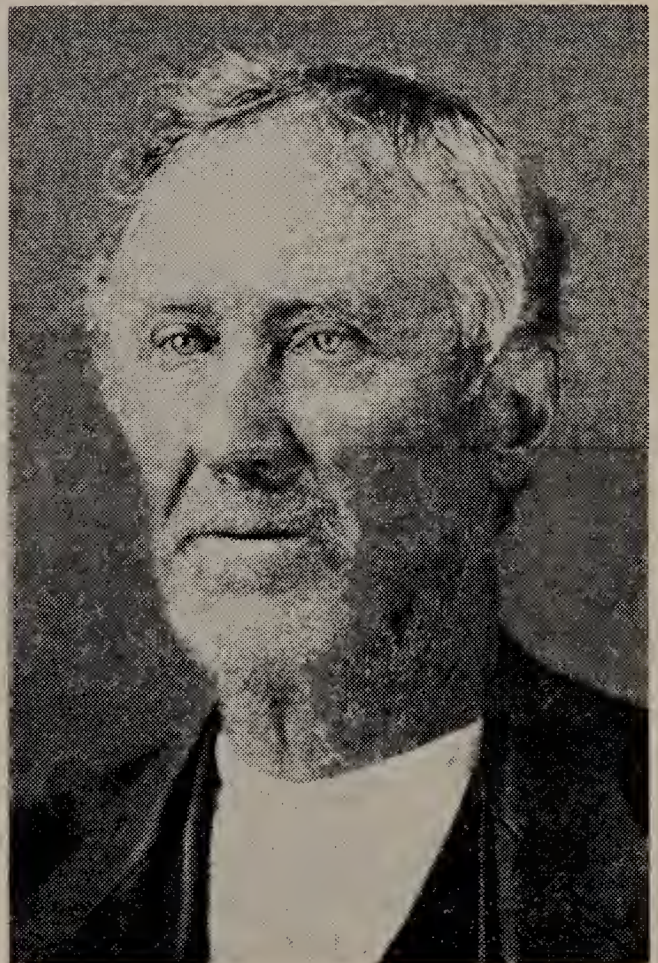
Martha Hess Rensberger. Born September 19, 1827. Married Samuel Rensberger March 30, 1854. Died April 12, 1908. Buried West Goshen Cemetery, Goshen, Indiana.



Reading—left to right: Chloe Rensberger Berkey; Nancy Hess Moseman, Martha Hess Bollinger, sisters; Henry Balser Hess. Relationship—first cousins.



Reading — left to right: Aaron I. Hess, Lanah Hess, Johnsy Hess, Henry Balser Hess, Elhanan W. Hess. Aaron, Lanah, Elhanan are brothers and sister. Henry a first cousin and Johnsy is Henry's nephew.



Balser Hess III. Born 1-26-1817. Married Sarah Ann Immell 5-7-1840. Died at Goshen 6-11-1894. Buried Hess Cemetery, Goshen, Indiana.



Daniel Hess and wife Esther. Born September 28, 1822. Married Esther Miller September 10, 1845. Died April 7, 1905. Buried Hess Cemetery, Goshen, Indiana. James H. Hess Collection, Columbus, O.

hold the undivided attention of the younger generation as she pictured daring deeds and elusive tricks executed by him during the war. Of course we children did not know that she never saw her Grandfather Hess. He died twenty-one years before she was born, and these stories must have been handed down from her father and his brothers and sisters. Aunt Martha dressed them up and dramatized them for the consumption of us children.

She was strong of will and body and the dominant personality of the family and of almost any group in which she happened to be. She always called Uncle Sam, "Pap", and always referred to him as "Pap" which caused a smile to creep over the faces of family and relatives, as she was four years his senior. They were both devout members of the Church of the Brethren, and while parsimoniously inclined, were very generous church givers and were the heaviest contributors to the church in Goshen when this church was built in 1899. They always attended and took a keen interest in its progress and growth during their declining years. Uncle Sam Rensberger was one of the granduncles that I used to wait on at the Goshen Milling Co. where he came to trade and keep in touch with the grain market. He knew as much about the market as I did and much more about the growing of grain. It was his life's vocation and he never lost interest to the end of life. Martha Hess Rensberger died April 12, 1908, and Samuel Rensberger died March 3, 1910. Services were held for both at the Goshen City Church of the Brethren and they were buried in the West Goshen Cemetery. Their son Cephas Rensberger died in California, March 3, 1910, and a double funeral service was held for him and his father and he was buried with the parents. The descendants are numerous and scattered. The family consisted of the following children:

3—12—1. Josephine Rensberger (3-3-1855- ?) m.
John M. Hoover.

3—12—2. Alpheus Rensberger (9-18-1856-6-8-1900)
(1) Ella Simmons, (2) Mary MacCasly.

3—12—3. Albert Rensberger (3-12-1858-?) m. Mary
Marilda Smith.

3—12—4. William Rensberger (3-9-1860- ?) m.
Elizabeth W. Worthington.

- 3—12—5. Hiram Rensberger (11-9-1861-) m.
Ellen Sowers Miller.
- 3—12—6. Melvin N. Rensberger (7-24-1863-) m.
Esta Simmons.
- 3—12—7. Chloe Rensberger (10-22-1865 - 12-25-
1919) .n. Edwin M. Berkey.
- 3—12—8. Emily Rensberger (died at age of 17)
- 3—12—9. Grace Parolee Rensberger (3-22-1874-12-
16-1907) m. John Wesley Rowdabaugh.
- 3—12—10. Cephas Rensberger, died March 3, 1910.

3—13. JACOB HESS, 1830-1864

Jacob Hess was born at the Goshen homestead June 20, 1830, being the first child born in Indiana. He grew to manhood on the farm south of Goshen. He married Elizabeth Robinson October 16, 1854, who was born May 29, 1828. He was bequeathed a certain farm in his father's will, probated in December, 1856, and was the only son to receive his inheritance under the will. Since he was the youngest son it is assumed his father had not previously given him his share. In 1861 he enlisted in the Union Army at Camp Ellis, which was located on his father's farm. He was wounded and died in an army hospital in 1864 and, I understand, was buried in the South near the field of battle. William Preston Brown says the widow and three daughters were all still living in 1891. These daughters are married and have families, which are scattered and the writer has no knowledge of them at this date.

- 3—13—1. Emaline H. Hess (11-23-1856-2-21-1897)
m. Charles T. Moss.
- 3—13—2. Jennie L. Hess (6-9-1858- ?) m. Romine
L. Davenport.
- 3—13—3. Nettie Jane Hess (12-15-1861- ?) m. Wm.
Parrott.

3—14. LYDIA HESS SHAFFER, 1832-1905

Lydia Hess was born January 20, 1832, at the family home one mile south of Goshen, and it is claimed by the family that she was the first white girl born on Elkhart Prairie. Her childhood and early life were spent on the homestead south of Goshen. On November 17, 1850, she married John Shaffer, who was born in Pennsylvania November 25, 1825,

and came to Elkhart County with his brother in 1848. He was a millwright by trade and they lived in Goshen for a short time and then located in Lagrange County, Indiana. Some years later they moved to Kosciusko County, Indiana, where they engaged in farming till the death of Mr. Shaffer on May 5, 1872. The widow then moved into the nearby town of Milford where she lived the balance of her life. She was married a second time to a John Mock, but this marriage was soon dissolved and she resumed the name Shaffer. Lydia Shaffer died at Milford, Indiana, February 28, 1905, and was buried with her husband John Shaffer in the Hess Cemetery southwest of Goshen. She was a woman of dignity, emphasized personal pride and primness, and had a dominant personality. Her family consisted of the following:

3—14—1. James Shaffer (10-7-1851- ?) m. Minerva Thomas.

3—14—2. John Scott Shaffer (8-10-1853-) m. Estella Stout.

3—14—3. Chloe Shaffer (2-5-1855-8-2-1939) m. Hiram Forney.

3—14—4. Frances Shaffer (6-13-1858-1905) m. Andrew Jackson Felkner.

3—15. CATHERINE HESS

Catherine Hess was born December 24, 1834, and died June 22, 1839, at the Hess homestead south of Goshen. She was buried in the Deardorff Cemetery at the south city limits of Goshen. The grave is marked by a small slab, which is still standing and is readable after one hundred and eleven years.

4. MARY EVE HESS, 1788-1861

Mary Eve Hess the fourth child of Balser Hess and Mary Eve Hensel Hess, was born February 7, 1788, in Bedford, Pennsylvania, where she spent her early childhood. In 1798, at the age of ten, she moved with the family to Hopetown, Ohio. Here they lived neighbors to the Michael Cryder family for several years. The family then moved to Franklinton, Ohio, where her father Balser died in 1806. On November 11, 1807, she married Emanuel Cryder, a son of Michael Cryder, and a brother to Henry Cryder who married her oldest sister Mary Ann Hess in 1802. They located on a farm at Hopetown, owned by Michael Cryder, her father-

in-law. This farm was bequeathed to her husband Emanuel under the terms of the Michael Cryder will (see Paragraph five of this will). They lived there their entire lives and were prosperous farmers. Emanuel Cryder died April 3, 1847, and Mary Eve Hess Cryder died December 17, 1861, at Hopetown, Ross County, Ohio, and both are buried in the Hopetown Cemetery. The family consisted of the following children:

- 4—1. Michael Cryder, b. Sept. 10, 1808; d. Jan. 11, 1809, aged four months.
- 4—2. Sarah Cryder, b. Oct. 17, 1809; d. July 7, 1835; m. Joshua M. Ridgway on Nov. 2, 1828.
 - 4—2—1. Samuel Cryder Ridgway (4-27-1830-8-11-1912) m. Sarah Weybright, daughter of Jacob Weybright and Eve Hess Weybright, daughter of Balser Hess II and Sarah Immell Hess of Goshen, Indiana. They were second cousins in the Hess line, both being great-grandchildren of Balser and both also descendants of Michael Cryder, Samuel in the third generation and his wife Sarah in the fourth. They had twelve children: Harriett Amanda, Clara Jane, Mary Desaline, James Marion, Martha Ellen, Charles Wesley, Nettie Alice, Manferd Emanuel, Samuel Orman, Lorena May, Sarah Edna, and Cynthia Grace.
 - 4—2—2. Dr. Emanuel Cryder Ridgway (10-22-1831-10-17-1903) m. Belinda Hoge and located at Morris, Illinois. He had six children, Fred W., Henry Albert, George, Mary, Franklin Scott, and Rachel.
- 4—3. Daniel Hess Cryder, b. May 29, 1811; d. Sept. 3, 1823.
- 4—4. Israel Hess Cryder, b. June 6, 1813; d. Jan. 10, 1838; m. Mary Jane McRoberts.
- 4—5. David Hess Cryder, b. Aug. 16, 1815; m. Caroline Poe Nov. 20, 1841, and had the following children: Andrew, David, John, James, Elizabeth, Elmira and Virginia. (From a letter written by David Cryder of Gillespieville, Ohio, to Allen Cryder dated November 2, 1906). All were living in 1906 except John and Elmira. David married Elmira J. Calvert in 1883 and had four children, Madge M., Blanche G., Lawrence E., and D. Cassius.

- 4—6. John Hess Cryder, b. Jan. 28, 1818; d. Oct. 19, 1842.
- 4—7. Mary Ann Cryder, b. April 11, 1820; d. Aug. 8, 1901; m. Hiram Mace Aug. 11, 1838, who was born July 4, 1813, and d. Jan. 6, 1879. They had eleven children as follows:
- 4—7—1. Martha Asneth Mace, b. Feb. 21, 1840; d. Apr. 27, 1847.
- 4—7—2. Margaret Louise Mace, b. Apr. 19, 1843; d. July 23, 1843.
- 4—7—3. Emanuel Cryder Mace, b. Nov. 9, 1844; d. Aug. 28, 1914; m. Elizabeth Addie Peck of Picketon, Ohio, on Aug. 12, 1866.
- 4—7—4. Douglas Wills Mace, b. Nov. 23, 1846; d. Apr. 27, 1847.
- 4—7—5. Elmira Mace, b. Apr. 3, 1848; d. Jan. 9, 1864.
- 4—7—6. Mary Frances Mace, b. Nov. 3, 1850; m. Samuel Saint Immel Lisle on Feb. 11, 1873. He died Oct. 14, 1877. She died in 1901. There were two children, Elmira Mabel Lisle who married William Everett Mead; and Eli Mace Lisle who married Lucile Turner.
- 4—7—7. Sarah Elizabeth Mace, b. July 13, 1853; d. July 13, 1853.
- 4—7—8. Martha Josephine Mace, b. Aug. 27, 1854; d. June 17, 1918; m. James M. Shriver b. 1832; d. Nov. 11, 1911.
- 4—7—9. Christa Ann Elizabeth Mace; b. Apr. 29, 1857; m. Seymore Shriver, a son of above James M. Shriver by a former marriage.
- 4—7—10. Jacob Hiram Mace, b. March 26, 1859; He married twice, but we have no record of his family.
- 4—7—11. Infant son, b. Nov. 6, 1862; died same day.
- 4—8. Elizabeth Cryder, b. April 8, 1825; d. Apr. 1, 1826.
- 4—9. Eve Ann Cryder, b. Nov. 28, 1826; d. Oct. 9, 1840.
- 4—10. Emanuel Hess Cryder, b. Nov. 28, 1828; d. Apr. 3, 1847.

5. CATHERINE HESS, 1790-1874

Catherine Hess, the fifth child of Balser and Mary Eve Hensel Hess, was born March 10, 1790, in Bedford, Penn-

sylvania. Here she spent her early childhood and in 1798 moved with her parents to Hopetown, Ross County, Ohio, and in 1802 to Franklinton, Ohio, where she grew to womanhood on the pioneer Hess homestead in Clinton Township. She married John Oller on November 10, 1808, in Franklinton, the ceremony being conducted by Reverend James Hoge, pastor of the Presbyterian Church of which her mother was a faithful member for over fifty years. (The record of this marriage is in Probate Court record 1 at page 54, being one of the early marriages of Franklin County.) John Oller was born June 18, 1786, and died May 8, 1838, leaving seven children. The second marriage of Catherine Hess (Oller) was to Judge William McElvain, a widower with ten daughters. He was an Associate Judge of Franklin County, Ohio, taking office the first time in 1829, and the second term in 1837, in which term he was serving at the time of this second marriage. He died about a year after this marriage. The third marriage was to George Oller, a brother of her first husband, and they are said to have lived together very happily for over thirty years. It was during these years that she was best known by the younger generation, and was familiarly and affectionately known to the family and community as "Aunt Katie Oller." On June 15, 1874, she died at her home near Bellepoint, Delaware County, Ohio, being in her eighty-fifth year. Her husband George Oller died in 1875. Her children, all by her first husband John Oller, are as follows:

5—1. Mary Eve Oller, b. August 13, 1811; m. Samuel Sponge Aug. 13, 1829, her eighteenth birthday. He died of tuberculosis Oct. 14, 1834, leaving the following:

5—1—1. Catherine Sponge, b. Dec. 5, 1830; d. Oct. 3, 1831.

5—1—2. Uriah Sponge, b. August 5, 1832.

5—1—3. Susan Sponge, b. Dec. 6, 1833.

Mary Eve Oller Sponge, the widow, then married Daniel Downs of Delaware County, Ohio, on June 26, 1836, and they located twelve miles from Shelbyville, Illinois. Five or six children were born to this union. Both parents died in Illinois and are buried near Shelbyville.

5—2. Susan Oller was born July 21, 1814; m. Alexander Johnston in Delaware County, Ohio. The family was as follows:

5—2—1. John Johnston.

5—2—2. William Johnston, who lived at Taylorville, Illinois.

5—2—3. Mary Johnston.

5—2—4. Sarah Johnston.

5—2—5. James Johnston.

5—3. Peter Oller was born October 22, 1816 and died Sept. 22, 1823.

5—4. Henry Hess Oller, b. Nov. 1, 1818; m. Sally Ann Eversole Dec. 16, 1840. They had a boy and a girl, the boy dying young. Henry Hess Oller married a second wife, Mary Freese, of Delaware County, Ohio. They moved to Christian County, Illinois, and had four children.

5—5. John Hess Oller, b. March 15, 1820; on Jan. 4, 1841 m. Louisa Grayless, a sister of Elizabeth Grayless, the third wife of John Moses Hess, his uncle. The family moved to Shelby County, Illinois, where he was killed in a threshing machine accident. His wife Louisa died in Illinois in 1870. They had the following children:

5—5—1. Uriah S. Oller

5—5—2. Sylvester Oller

5—5—3. Marie Oller

5—5—4. Genevieve Oller

5—5—5. Jay Oller

5—5—6. Nehemiah Oller

5—5—7. Elizabeth Oller

5—6. Mary Ann Oller b. Dec. 1, 1821; d. Oct. 15, 1823.

5—7. David Carpenter Oller, b. Nov. 7, 1824; m. Miss Redding; died in Illinois where he spent most of his life.

6: MARY SALOMA HESS, 1794-1872

Mary Saloma Hess, the sixth child of Balser Hess and Mary Eve Hensel Hess, was born at Bedford, Pennsylvania, September 26, 1794. In 1798, when four years old, she moved with her parents to Hopetown, Ross County, Ohio, where the family remained four years, and for reasons heretofore related moved to Franklinton, Ohio, where Balser

Hess in 1802 purchased four hundred acres of land from General Jonathan Dayton, the land commissioner for this district. Here at the age of twelve she saw her father die and leave several small children. She saw her older brothers continue to clear and get this large tract of land under cultivation. Here, under the tutelage of a highly accomplished lady from the East, who lived in the home for several years and instructed the younger children, she received her education, and became well versed in literature, history, and feminine arts such as lace making and needle work. Here, in a pioneer community but a cultured home environment, she grew to womanhood. She was a communicant of Rev. James Hoge's Presbyterian Church and adhered to this denomination during her early life.

While visiting her older sister, Mary Eve Hess Cryder, who had married Emanuel Cryder and lived at Hopetown, Ohio, she met Emanuel Carpenter, a cousin of Emanuel Cryder. Emanuel Carpenter was born in 1783 and had married a Mary Shellenberger who had died young, and he was a widower with four children. He was a fine looking, scholarly gentleman of the old school, a member of the Ohio State Legislature from Fairfield County, and lived at Lancaster, Ohio, where he had extensive business interests. (For account of his life see *History of the Carpenter Family*, page 65). On November 3, 1813, Mary Saloma Hess married Emanuel Carpenter at Franklinton, Ohio, the ceremony being performed by Joseph Gorton, a Justice of the Peace in Franklin County, and a friend of the groom. (*Marriage Record Volume 1, page 140, Probate Court of Franklin County, Ohio.*) She moved to Lancaster, Ohio, and at nineteen became the stepmother to the four young Carpenter children and the mistress of one of the best homes in Fairfield County, Ohio. The War of 1812 had inflated the monetary system and many new banks were organized. The panic following was disastrous to many banks, and Emanuel Carpenter found himself greatly involved and his many business interests in jeopardy. At this critical time in his business career he fell ill and died of pneumonia, January, 1818, aged thirty-five. Had he lived he could have saved much of his estate, but after it was settled there was little left for his children. There were two children to this union;

6—1. Maria Louisa Carpenter, b. Sept. 15, 1816; d. Sept. 7, 1823.

6—2. Sarah Ann Carpenter, b. April 11, 1818 (about three months after her father's sudden death). m. Rev. James S. McAvoy, a Baptist minister on August 26, 1834. They had two children:

6—2—1. Mary Louise McAvoy, m. Thomas Slaughter, a son of Judge Slaughter of Lancaster, Ohio, and they moved to Olathe, Kansas.

6—2—2. Mary Salome McAvoy, m. Wellington, who died in the Bahama Islands and she then married Doctor Gonzales and they resided for some years at Key West, Florida.

Mary Saloma's second husband, Samuel Carpenter, was born July 19, 1794, and was a nephew to Emanuel Carpenter, her first husband. He had lived for some time with his uncle and was employed by him in the conduct of his various business interests. He was a surveyor by trade and a Baptist in religious affiliations. Mary Saloma Hess married Samuel Carpenter January 28, 1819. About this time Samuel was elected to the ministry of the Baptist Church and his wife affiliated with this denomination. According to all accounts he must have been "the salt of the earth." He continued to preach for over forty years. Being engaged in business and surveying for a livelihood, he never depended on his ministry for a living. He retired from business about 1860, when he was well enough fixed financially to devote his closing years to his most important business, preaching the Gospel of Christ. He died August 19, 1870, and Mary Saloma died October 18, 1872, both at the home in Lancaster which was built by Emanuel Carpenter, and which they occupied after his death for fifty-five years. Both are buried in Elmwood Cemetery, Lancaster, Ohio. A rose colored Scotch granite stone marks their graves. (For a full account of the life of Rev. Samuel Carpenter see *History of the Carpenter Family*, page 66 and cut on page 66). The writer has excellent pictures of Samuel and Mary Saloma from the collection of William Preston Brown.

Children of Mary Saloma Hess and her second husband Samuel Carpenter:

6—3. Alfred Carpenter, b. Sept. 3, 1820; d. Sept. 18, 1823.

6—4. Samuel Carpenter Jr., b. Aug. 6, 1821; d. Sept. 3, 1822.

- 6—5. Rebecca Carpenter, b. July 22, 1823; m. Charles F. Schaeffer, an attorney at Lancaster, Ohio; d. Dec. 14, 1876, leaving following children:
- 6—5—1. Mary Salome Schaeffer, m. Sept. 2, 1873, at the home of her parents in Columbus, Ohio, to the Honorable Peter H. Ward of Kentland, Indiana, who was a Judge of an Indiana Circuit Court. He was a widower with one daughter. They had a son Herbert Ward.
- 6—5—2. Samuel Carpenter Schaeffer, m. Pepito Cardenas Sheilds, a Spanish widow who had married a Mr. Sheilds in Mexico. She died leaving him with a daughter Josephine Schaeffer aged five.
- 6—5—3. Charles Albert Schaeffer, m. Belle Bunting of Rome, Georgia. They had a daughter Marguerite Schaeffer.
- 6—5—4. Laura Belle Schaeffer.
- 6—6. Mary Salome Carpenter was born February 28, 1827, and married the Rev. J. Harvey Buchanan, a United Presbyterian Minister. They both died at Huntsville, Logan County, Ohio, she died July 25, 1873.
- 6—6—1. Samuel A. Buchanan was a civil engineer and lived at Bellefontaine, Ohio. He married Livy Lusk and had two sons.
- 6—6—2. Dr. Robert Finley Buchanan resided in Texas.
- 6—6—3. Mary Louise Buchanan, m. Mark Wishard and lived at Bissel, a suburb of Pittsburg, Pa. They had two sons, Alexander and Samuel.
- 6—6—4. Charles Buchanan was a bachelor and resided at the home in Huntsville, O.
- 6—7. Theopilus Carpenter was born Dec. 9, 1830; d. Jan. 31, 1831.
- 6—8. Laura Catherine Carpenter was born April 17, 1832, and married Doctor Robert Steele Finley of Xenia, Ohio, who was born January 15, 1827, and died at Xenia March 27, 1906. (This is the Laura Carpenter Finley to whose letter of 1890 to Louisa Hess Brown we have referred several times).
- 6—8—1. Mary Ella Finley.

- 6—8—2. Robert Buchanan Finley }
 6—8—3. Samuel Carpenter Finley } twins
 6—8—4. Herman Hess Finley married Catherine Hanafin and she died leaving the following children: Robert Finley, Ethel Finley (Tucker) who is in the floral business in Columbus, Ohio, Lee Ward Finley, and Laura Kathleen Finley. Herman Hess Finley married a second time and had five children.
 6—8—5. Frank Finley, who died in infancy.

7. ELIZABETH HESS, 1795-1847

Elizabeth Hess, the seventh child of Balser Hess and Mary Eve Hensel Hess, was born in 1795 in the State of Virginia. Little is known as to the reason for the Hess family being in Virginia this year 1795, or of the happenings of the trip. It appears on record that about 1795 the family made a prospecting trip or move to Virginia where they had German relatives and friends. Here they investigated the offer of land for homesteading made by Lord Fairfax, as he was still called after the Revolution. It is said they took along several horses which they sold, using the money for the return trip to Bedford, Pennsylvania. It is apparent that Balser Hess was already in search of land on which to locate his increasing family. Why he did not locate in Virginia is not known. We do know he returned to the Bedford home and in 1798 made the move to Ross County, Ohio, heretofore related. He probably decided the prospects were better to the West. This explains why Elizabeth, alone, was born in Virginia, and not in Bedford as were the other children. Since the trip did not result in anything permanent, it was not mentioned under the life of Balser Hess.

At the age of three Elizabeth Hess moved with the family to Ross County, Ohio, and at seven to Franklin County, Ohio. Here she married Isaac Keyes on May 7, 1812. The Reverend James Hoge, her mother's pastor, performed the marriage ceremony. (See marriage record one, page 105 in the *Probate Court Records of Franklin County, Ohio*.) Isaac Keyes was born January 11, 1790, in Fayette County, Kentucky, and as a young man came to Pickaway County, Ohio, which adjoins Franklin County, Ohio, on the south. They established their first home in Pickaway County, where they lived till 1819, and where the first three children were born.

This home was only twenty miles from the Hopetown, Ohio, home of her two older sisters, Mary Ann and Mary Eve, who had married the Cryder brothers, and lived here during these years. In 1819 the Keyes family moved to Rochester Township, Sangamon County, Illinois. This was a very early date for Illinois settlers and they were on the very outpost of civilization. She was the first of the Balser Hess children to leave Ohio and migrate to the West. Here five more children were born and here the balance of the rather short lives of Elizabeth Hess Keyes and Isaac Keyes was spent. Both died on the farm homestead they had established; she in May, 1847, aged fifty-two, and he on May 2, 1848, one year later, aged fifty-eight years. Their children follow in order of their births:

- 7—1. Mary Keyes was born in 1814 in Pickaway County, Ohio, and moved with the family in 1819 to Sangamon County, Illinois, where she married Timothy Shoup, who was born in 1813 and died in 1850.
- 7—1—1. Jacob Shoup died at the age of ten.
- 7—1—2. Elizabeth Shoup was married to James Crawley and they had two children: Mary E. and John E. Crawley.
- 7—1—3. Isaac F. Shoup married Maria N. Byers and had four children: Lila A. Shoup, Lewis Shoup, John T. Shoup and Jesse E. Shoup.
- 7—1—4. Alexander F. C. Shoup was born March 3, 1844, and married Arthalinda Bell and they had three children: Nanie Shoup, Adalee Shoup, and Samuel B. Shoup.
- 7—1—5. John H. Shoup was born July 11, 1847, and had a son, William Shoup.
- 7—2. Samuel Keyes was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, in 1815 or 1816 and moved with the family to Sangamon County, Illinois, in 1819, where he married Elizabeth Delay, and lived on the farm in Rochester Township that his parents entered in 1819. They had six children as follows:
 - 7—2—1. Henry Keyes was born in 1845 and in 1871 went to Washington Territory.
 - 7—2—2. Mary Keyes was married to John Poffenbarger and died in 1870.
 - 7—2—3. Lorenzo D. Keyes was born August 10, 1862, and died at the age of thirteen.

- 7—2—4. Julia Keyes.
- 7—2—5. Florence G. Keyes.
- 7—2—6. Winnie Keyes.

7—3. Daniel Keyes was born in 1817 in Ross County, Ohio, probably at the Hopetown, Ohio, home of his Aunt Mary Eve Cryder, his mother's sister. In 1819 he was taken by his parents to Sangamon County, Illinois, where he grew to manhood and married Sarah J. Armstrong January 3, 1844, who died September 28, 1844, in childbirth. This daughter,

7—3—1. was born September 28, 1844, m. Robert A. Jones; lived at Independence, Montgomery County, Kansas.

Daniel Keyes was married a second time, May 7, 1845, to Nancy A. Dosier, who was born September 26, 1823, in Montgomery County, Kentucky. They had ten children, all born in Sangamon and Christian Counties, Illinois, as follows:

- 7—3—2. James A. Keyes.
- 7—3—3. Isaac W. Keyes.
- 7—3—4. Nancy A. Keyes, who died as a child.
- 7—3—5. Miranda A. Keyes, b. Jan. 28, 1852; m. Sylvester Miller in 1871; lived in Christian County, Illinois.
- 7—3—6. John Keyes.
- 7—3—7. Charles Keyes.
- 7—3—8. Edwin S. Keyes.
- 7—3—9. Jessie P. Keyes.
- 7—3—10. Mary J. Keyes.
- 7—3—11. Hattie M. Keyes.

Note of William Preston Brown says all the unmarried children in 1876 lived with the parents near Pana, Christian County, Illinois.

7—4. Isaac Keyes, Jr. was born January 16, 1825, in Sangamon County, Illinois, and grew to manhood on the pioneer farm. On February 14, 1852, at Rochester, Illinois, he married Almira J. Neal. Isaac Keyes Jr. deserves more than a passing notice. He was a man of many affairs. Most of his life was spent in Springfield, Illinois, where he was a real estate promoter, builder of business blocks, a banker, a railroad builder, owner and manager of a coal mine, one of the owners and superintendent of the first horse-drawn

railway street car in Springfield, Deputy United States Marshall of the Southern District of Illinois, 1857-1862, and then was appointed Provost Marshall for the Eighth Congressional District of Illinois by President Lincoln. Here he served with honor till September, 1865. Later he served as postmaster of Springfield, Illinois. He was interested and active in all civic movements during his life in Springfield, an active member of the Central Baptist Church and a member of the Board of Regents for Oak Ridge Cemetery. In fact if you would have stopped in Springfield any time from 1850 to 1895 and asked, "Who is Isaac Keyes Jr?" you would have found that he was one of the best known men of the town and Sangamon County, due to his many and varied activities in business, civic affairs, politics and church. He retired from most of his business enterprises in 1890, turning the responsibility over to his son Edward D. Keyes, who was also active and well known in the Springfield community. He died at his home in Springfield, February 1, 1895. (For a full account of his life and activities see *Sangamon County Illinois History* published in 1905). He had three children as follows:

- 7—4—1. Edward D. Keyes, an officer in his father's bank above mentioned.
- 7—4—2. Annie E. Keyes who lived with her parents and preceded her father in death.
- 7—4—3. Nellie I. Keyes, b. 1857; d. Sept. 5, 1875, aged eighteen years.
- 7—5. James Keyes was born April 11, 1828, in Sangamon County, Illinois, and married Nannie Gardner, dau. of Hiram K. Gardner, Jan. 1, 1863, who was b. Feb. 6, 1835, in Trimble County, Kentucky. James Keyes was in the real estate business and lived in Springfield, Illinois, most of his life. They had one daughter,
 - 7—5—1. Ida Keyes, b. Oct. 21, 1863.
- 7—6. Clarissa Keyes was born in 1830 on the homestead in Sangamon County, Illinois, and married Allen Miller and by 1890 they had seven children and were living in Springfield, Illinois.

7—7. Eliza A. Keyes was born April 3, 1832, on the homestead in Sangamon County, Illinois, and married Jasper Newton Inslee on May 17, 1852. They had five children and lived most of their lives on a farm in Cotton Hill Township, Sangamon County.

The children were:

7—7—1. Ann E. Inslee who died at age of two.

7—7—2. Emma J. Inslee.

7—7—3. Mary L. Inslee.

7—7—4. Malissa Inslee.

7—7—5. Joseph W. Inslee.

7—8. Marinda Keyes was born in Rochester Township, Sangamon County, Illinois, about 1834 and married Marion Goldsby. This family moved to Cass County, Missouri, where they were living in 1890. They had five children.

8. SUSAN HESS, 1797-1887

Susan Hess, the eighth child of Balser Hess and Mary Eve Hensel Hess, was born January 9, 1797, at the home in Bedford, Pennsylvania. She was the last child born in Pennsylvania and the youngest daughter of the family. In 1798, when an infant, she was taken by the family to Ross County, Ohio, and in 1802 taken to Franklin County, Ohio, where she grew to womanhood on the pioneer Hess farm in Clinton Township. She was destined to live ninety years, the longest life of any in this family of nine children. She came within less than two years of reaching the longevity record of her mother who lived to be past ninety-two. Because of her long life and being the youngest daughter, she was seen by and well known to many of third and fourth generations and was known as "Aunt Susan."

She met her husband Israel Carpenter in the home of her sister, Mary Saloma Hess (Carpenter) wife of Samuel Carpenter, in Lancaster, Ohio. After their marriage in 1817 they established a home on a farm in Delaware County, Ohio, near the home of her sister Mary Ann Hess Cryder, whose husband Henry Cryder was also a cousin to Israel Carpenter. The Henry Cryder family moved to Grundy County, Illinois, in 1833, and her sister, Elizabeth Keyes and her family, had already located in central Illinois. In 1835 the Israel Carpenter family sold out their Delaware County holdings and moved to Shelbyville, Shelby County, Illinois, where they joined their many relatives previously

located there, and where they spent the balance of their lives.

Israel Carpenter is described as a fine looking man, possessed of much personal magnetism, but rather early in life he became addicted to the drink habit. This was a source of great embarrassment to his wife and family. She was so upset and troubled over this weakness that she consulted her sister, "Aunt Katie Oller," who lived near, about applying for a divorce. She advised against it and in a year or so Israel reformed, ceased his drinking habits and was a teetotaler the rest of his life.

They were farmers in the Shelbyville community for many years. After the death of Israel she moved to adjoining Sangamon County, near her sister Elizabeth Hess (Keyes). She died at the home of her son Henry C. Carpenter in Shelby County in 1887. Her descendants, according to our present records, are as follows:

8—1. Maria Carpenter, b. Jan. 22, 1819; d. 1868; m. David Freshwater of Delaware County, Ohio, and had thirteen children.

8—2. Catherine Carpenter, b. Mar. 1, 1820; m. (1) Wm. Walker March 29, 1839. After his death, March 19, 1854, she married Dr. Abel Forshee. Children:

8—2—1. Minnie Walker.

8—2—2. Sylvia Walker, m. Beach; three children; West Jefferson, Ohio.

8—2—3. Leonora Walker, m. John Milligan; no issue.

8—2—4. Diana Walker.

8—3. John Carpenter, b. Sept. 25, 1821; unmarried.

8—4. Henry C. Carpenter, b. Oct. 1, 1823, m. Sarah Downs d. 1881.

8—4—1 George Carpenter, m. McDonald; one child, Georgiana.

8—4—2. James Walter Carpenter, m. Jones; several children.

8—4—3. Alex. Carpenter, m.; several children; live near Mexico, Mo.

8—4—4. Alonzo Carpenter, m. Bruner; three children.

8—4—5. Nora Carpenter, m. Hebel; four children.

- 8—5. Martha Ann Carpenter, b. Jan. 28, 1825, unmarried.
- 8—6. Michael S. Carpenter, b. Mar. 6, 1827; m. Eliza Teasley; children:
- 8—6—1. John Carpenter, m. Lydia Clark and had three children, Pearl, Lillie, and Bernice.
- 8—6—2. Thaddeus Carpenter, m. Nettie Jones; no issue.
- 8—6—3. Louisa Carpenter, died young.
- 8—6—4. Charles Carpenter.
- 8—6—5. Susan Carpenter, m. (1) James Cravan; (2) Fred Baldwin; 3 children, Lucile, Georgiana, and Ola Baldwin.
- 8—6—6. Ella Carpenter, m. (1) Frank Jackson, one child, Goldie May; (2) Carlos Josson, a son Walter Harlan Josson.
- 8—7. Israel Carpenter, b. Oct. 6, 1829; d. young.
- 8—8. Diana Carpenter, b. Feb. 6, 1831; m. Alfred Vigal.
- 8—8—1. Clara Vigal, m. Jones; four children.
- 8—8—2. Antonio Vigal, m. Dodson; three children.
- 8—8—3. Stephen Vigal, m. May Matthew; no issue.
- 8—8—4. Minnie Vigal, m. Vancil; three or four children.
- 8—9. William Carpenter, d. young.
- 8—10. Walter Scott Carpenter, b. Mar. 15, 1835; m. (1) Ellen Brunk, (2) Laura A. Gravett.
- 8—10—1. Charles Carpenter.
- 8—10—2. Jacob Carpenter.
- 8—10—3. George Carpenter.
- 8—10—4. Katie Carpenter, m. John Anderson; two children.
- 8—11. Balthazer Carpenter, b. 1837; died young.

9. JOHN MOSES HESS, 1799, 1856

John Moses Hess, the ninth child of Balser Hess and Mary Eve Hensel Hess, was born September 22, 1799, at Hopetown, Ross County, Ohio. He was the only child born after the family left Bedford, Pennsylvania. At the age of two he was taken by the family to the Franklin County home near Columbus, Ohio. Here his father died when he was seven years old and he grew to manhood under the care of his mother and oldest brother Daniel, who remained

at home with the widow and reared this family of orphans and did not marry till after his last sister Susan was married to Israel Carpenter in 1817. Under his father's will he was to receive the homestead at his mother's death, but due to the fact that she lived nearly fifty years a widow, John Moses did not receive actual possession until January 26, 1855, just eighteen months before his death.

On July 25, 1824, he married Elizabeth Moore, a daughter of Thomas Moore a farmer living on the Olentangy River north of the Hess home. She was born in 1801. They had one son Thomas Moore Hess born July 11, 1825 at the Moore home. The mother Elizabeth died September 23, 1825, never having recovered from the birth of the son, and is buried in Union Cemetery just north of the Hess homestead.

In the fall of 1828, in company with his brother Balser, they made a land prospecting trip west through Indiana and Illinois. It was on this trip that he helped pick out the Indiana home to which Balser II moved the following spring, and which became the Indiana homestead.

On November 10, 1830, John Moses married Mary Ann Peoples (Marriage Record three, page 2, Franklin County Probate Court) and they had one daughter Mary, born October 8, 1831, and both mother and daughter died the same day. He was a widower for a second time.

During this time he went with the Henry Cryder family in 1833 from Delaware County, Ohio, to Grundy County, Illinois. Mary Ann Cryder was his oldest sister. Here he helped with the long hard trip and stayed till the family was well established in their new home near the present site of Morris, Illinois. In 1834 he returned to Ohio, by way of his brother Balser's home at Goshen, Indiana.

On July 12, 1838, he married Elizabeth Grayless, daughter of Nathaniel Grayless and Sarah LaCompt. The ceremony was performed by J. A. Waterman, Justice of the Peace. (See Marriage Record 3, page 196, Probate Court of Franklin County, Ohio). Elizabeth Grayless was born October 25, 1819, and died May 25, 1851. His third marriage lasted only thirteen years. He was left with four small children, namely: James Hermes Hess, Charles Wesley Hess, John Moses Hess and Maria Louisa Hess. One child Mary died in infancy. During the last marriage he devoted his entire time to farming and im-

proving the land on which his mother still lived under her life lease. He died July 25, 1856, leaving above four half-grown children, who now had neither mother nor father. The son Thomas Moore, by his first marriage, was grown and he assumed the responsibility of the younger children. It was a task he was well prepared for as he had been an orphan from birth. Life is oftentimes strange and sometimes cruel. John Moses Hess had lived a short fifty-six years. It is putting it mildly to say his life was filled with disappointment and sorrow, as this record discloses. He was buried in Union Cemetery just a few feet west of his father and mother and a twelve foot shaft marks the graves of him and his wives.

9—1. Thomas Moore Hess was born July 25, 1825, the only child by his father's first marriage. His mother died when he was an infant and his father took him to the home of his sister Catherine Oller (Aunt Katie) in Delaware County, Ohio, and this aunt cared for him the first five years of his life. His father married the second time in 1830 and Thomas returned to the parental home at Columbus. The next year the stepmother died and he was an orphan again. Since his father did not marry the third time for seven years, Thomas spent much of the next ten years with his grandfather Moore, who had moved to Indiana. Here he attended school till he was fifteen, when he again returned to the parental home, where he worked on the farm and grew to manhood. Because of early life as an orphan and the many changes and homes it involved, and because he never experienced that affection called "Mother Love" he always manifested a great interest in orphan children. He was well prepared to assist in the rearing of his brothers and sisters after the death of their father. He was a kindly, sympathetic man mellowed by experience. He was a successful farmer and business man, a good financier and acquired a large land estate. He died May 28, 1889, and is buried in Union Cemetery, Columbus, Ohio.

Thomas Moore Hess married Mary Ann Rutherford in 1849, daughter of Henry Rutherford of Bellpoint, Delaware County, Ohio, who was born March 25, 1828. She died September 25, 1850, and is buried

in Delaware County on the Scioto River. By this marriage there was one son.

9—1—1. Henry Rutherford Hess, b. Sept. 9, 1850; m. Catherine Reeb, March 6, 1879, daughter of Henry Reeb of Perry Township, Franklin County, Ohio, who was born Nov. 6, 1857, and d. June 22, 1890, and is buried in Greenlawn Cemetery. Henry R. Hess died June 14, 1930, leaving one daughter, Annie Hess, b. June 28, 1887; m. Ivan Latham, and has several children.

Thomas Moore Hess married for a second wife Ann Amanda Kinnear, a daughter of Samuel Kinnear, on October 2, 1851, and the first child of this marriage and second child of Thomas Moore was

9—1—2. Ellen Pauline Hess, m. Charles Scott Woodrow, son of Rev. Thomas Woodrow a Presbyterian minister and uncle of President Woodrow Wilson. They had three children: (1) Guy Woodrow, b. 1871, m. Bessie Seibert, and had four children, Lloyd, Marvel (Mrs. Walter Fleming), Florence (Mrs. O. A. Donnenth) who has one son, and Claude who has two children; (2) Thomas Woodrow, m. Mattie Benjamin; (3) Anne E. Woodrow, m. David E. Gardner Nov. 9, 1898, and has two children.

9—1—3. Nora Adell Hess, m. Peter Ramlow.

9—2. Mary Hess, b. Oct. 8, 1831; died same day, along with her mother, Mary Ann Peoples Hess.

9—3. James Hermes Hess was born Aug. 21, 1839, and was the third child of John Moses Hess and the first child by his third wife, Elizabeth Grayless. His mother died when he was twelve and his father before he was seventeen years old. He discovered early in life that since both parents were dead it was up to him to make his own way in the world, and that the best road to success was to obtain a good education. After finishing in the public schools of Franklin County he went to Westerville, Ohio, where he enrolled in Otterbein College. He worked his own way through this college, partly by teaching in the institution. Next he was principal of the Westerville Public School. While in this position he received an offer from Shelbyville, Illinois, to become superintendent

of Shelbyville Illinois Seminary, which offer he accepted and held the position for two years. Two sisters of his father, Susan Carpenter and Elizabeth Keyes, and their families all lived in this Illinois vicinity, and probably influenced him in locating there. He then returned to Columbus and was appointed Deputy Clerk of the Common Pleas Court in which position he served for some time. Deciding there was a brighter future in farming he then returned to the homestead and took up that occupation, which he followed the rest of his life. During this time he served as county school examiner and Justice of the Peace for Clinton Township. He was ambitious, a hard worker, a successful farmer and financier. He built the two-story brick home that stands on the homestead today and is occupied by his daughter Miss Mary E. Hess.

On October 26, 1871, he married Eliza Jane Kenny, who was born March 29, 1849, a daughter of James Kenny of Perry Township, and they established their home on the Hess farm, which James had now acquired, and lived there the rest of their lives. In the winter of 1889 while on a business trip to the State of Pennsylvania, he was exposed to the measles, and when he fell ill after his return he expressed a fear that should the malady prove to be measles he would not recover. While apparently well on the road to recovery, he received a backset, and died of complications February 13, 1889, aged forty-nine years, five months and seventeen days. His had been a short life, but one crammed with activities. He was buried in Union Cemetery, just across the drive from his father and Grandfather Hess. He left his wife Eliza and daughter Mary E. Hess.

Aunt Eliza remained his widow for nearly thirty years, and Mary E. Hess managed the farm. It was during this time that the writer lived in this home with Aunt Eliza and attended Ohio State University for some time, as a boy, over forty years ago. She was never robust but inclined to be frail and died April 24, 1918, at the beginning of the seventieth year of her life. It was a shock, as we did not realize her ailments were that serious. My parents and I

went to Columbus for the funeral rites and I acted as one of the pallbearers. She rests beside her husband in Union Cemetery. By the younger generation she was affectionately called Aunt "Lide." She was prim, quiet, soft spoken and cultured, with a motherly disposition admired and loved by all.

The daughter, Mary E. Hess, still lives on the homestead where she was born and is engaged in the floral business, being the principal owner of the Fifth Avenue Floral Company of Columbus, Ohio.

9—4. Charles Wesley Hess was born Nov. 14, 1841, and married October 1, 1863, to Ann Matilda Lane, who was born Nov. 10, 1842, dau. of William and Lenah Lane of Perry Township, Franklin County, Ohio. (See marriage record 8, page 234 Probate Court of Franklin County, Ohio.) He lived most of his life in the city of Columbus, Ohio, where he conducted a real estate business and owned income property. In the fall of 1889 he fell ill of typhoid fever and died Nov. 9, 1889, at his home on Dennison Avenue, Columbus, Ohio. He lacked just five days of reaching the age of forty-eight years. He was the third son of John Moses Hess to die in the year of 1889, Thomas and James preceding him. His widow lived twenty years and died at her Columbus, Ohio, home July 9, 1909, and both are buried in Union Cemetery, Columbus, Ohio. The family is as follows:

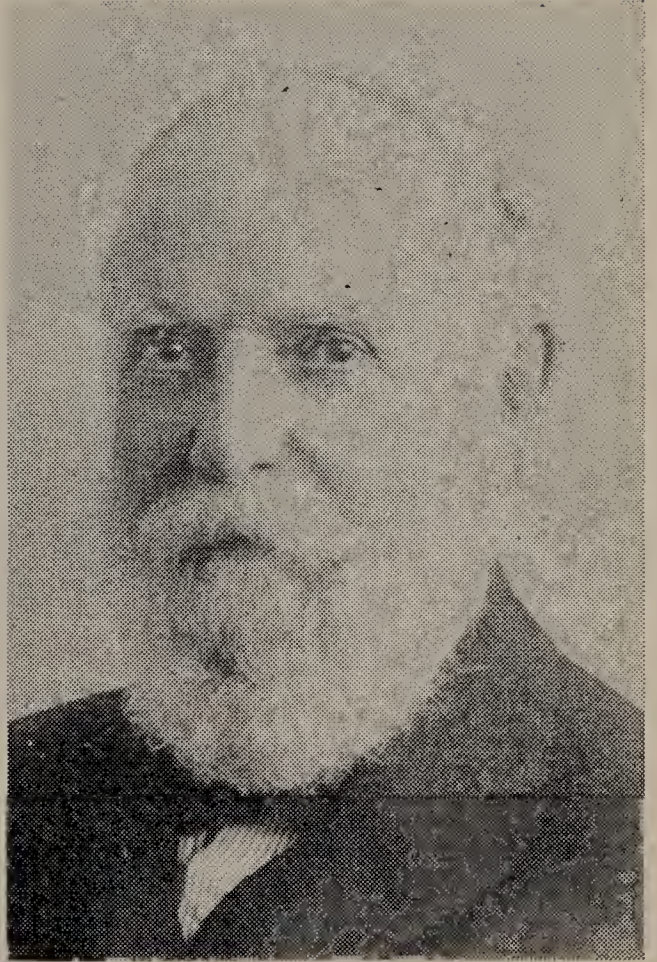
9—4—1. William Grayless Hess, b. Feb. 12, 1865; m. Gertrude Fox, a dau. of A. N. Fox, a realtor of Columbus, Ohio Their daughter, Gladys Hess, m. Samuel Roberts Israel of Seattle, Washington, 11-8-1916. Their second dau. was Dorothy Hess.

9—4—2. Charles Richard Hess, b. 11-1-1866, m. Alice A. Cooke, son Leland.

9—4—3. Florence Louise Hess, b. 9-5-1871, m. Don Wait Willison 12-5-1899; Children, Miles Wesley Willison, Grayless Willison, Mary Louise Willison, Robert Moses Willison, and Jean Willison.

9—4—4. Ida Leah Hess, b. Mar. 14, 1884, m. William D. Freer, dau. Audrey

9—5. John Moses Hess Jr. was born March 7, 1844, and married Hannah Kenny Fairfield March 15, 1871 at



Louisa Hess Brown

Born 3-7-1847, Columbus, Ohio.

Married 4-30-1873.

Died 10-9-1918, Los Angeles, Calif.

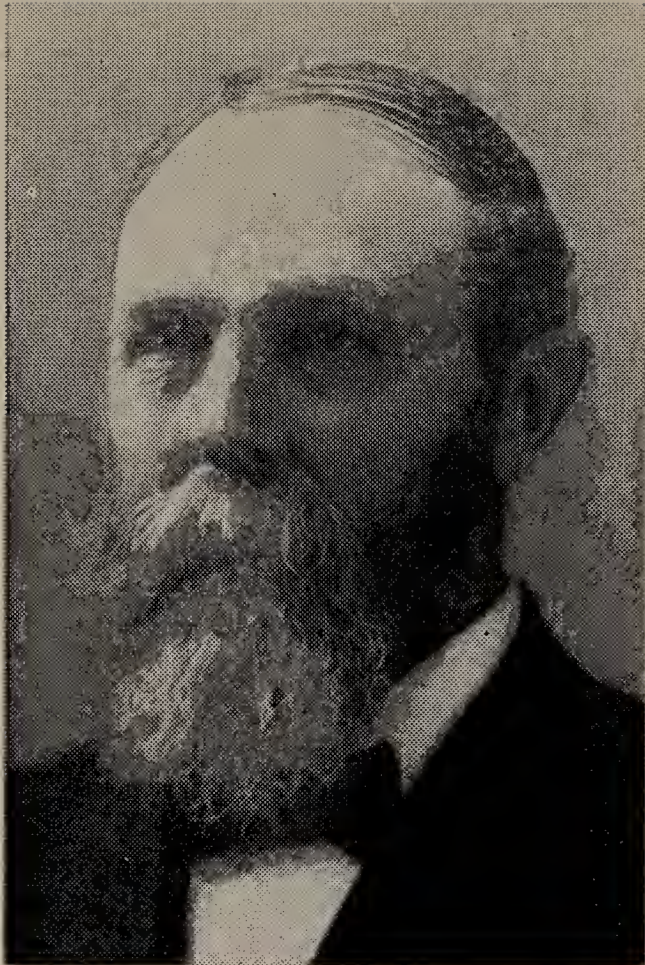
William Preston Brown

Born 3-25-1842, Columbus, Ohio.

Died 1-8-1929, Los Angeles, Calif.

Buried in the beautiful Forest Lawn Cemetery, Glendale, California.

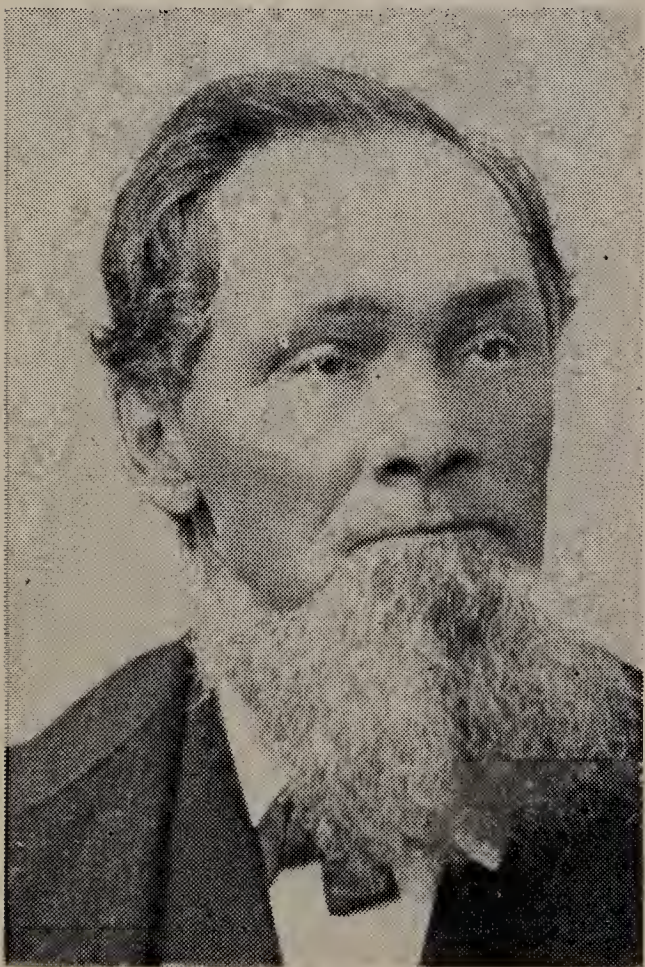
Together they gathered much Hess history and genealogy which fell to the writer and to them I am most deeply indebted. They were affectionately known throughout the family as Aunt Lou and Uncle Press. It is to the foresight of Aunt Lou that the certificate of Good Character of Balser Hess has been preserved and hangs in the home of her daughters in Los Angeles, California. This is document two, page 12. Otherwise it could easily have been lost to the descendants.



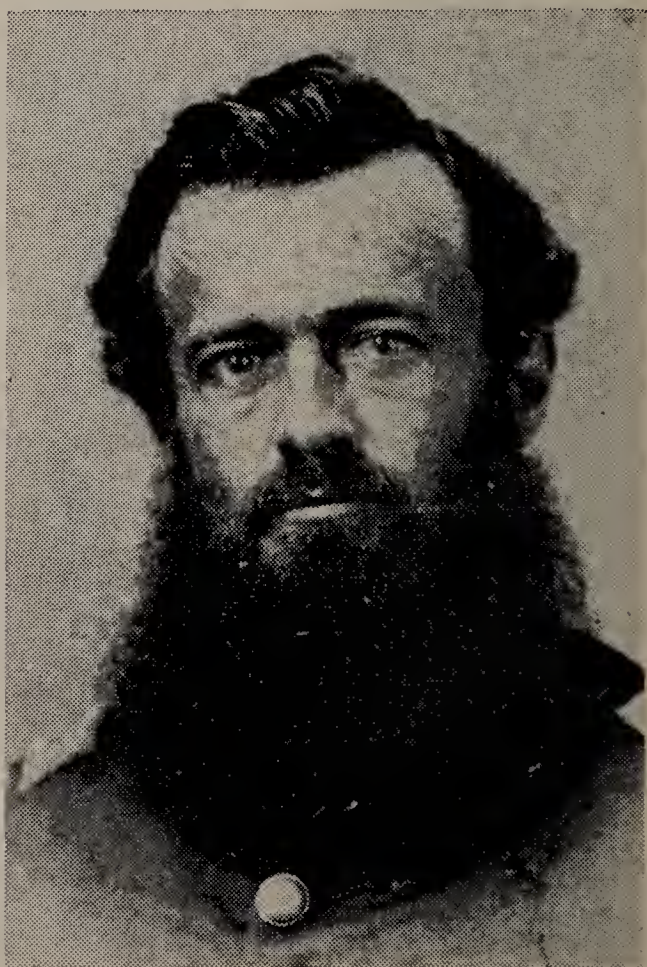
John Moses Hess, Jr. 1844-1923. Born, reared and lived all his life on Hess Homestead, Columbus, Ohio. Buried in Union Cemetery.



Hannah Fairfield Hess 1847-1922. Wife of John Moses Hess and first cousin of Mrs. James Hess. Buried in Union Cemetery, Columbus, Ohio. See page 124.



Thomas Moore Hess, son of John Moses Hess. See page 121 for story. Preston Brown collection.



Dr. Emanuel Cryder Ridgway. Taken at Vicksburg, Miss., while a surgeon in Civil War. Later practiced at Morris, Ill. See page 106.

the home of her uncle James Kenny. She was born Nov. 27, 1847, in Perry Township. The minister was Elder Daniel Hess, cousin of the groom. (See marriage record 11, page 390 Probate Court Franklin County, Ohio.) Aunt Hannah and Aunt Eliza (James Hess's wife) were cousins, Aunt Hannah's mother being a sister to Aunt Eliza's father. John Moses received his education in the public schools of Franklin County and later attended Otterbein University. He was a farmer all his life. Uncle Moses was well over six feet tall, quiet and easy going. He always had a well groomed driving horse and took me on several Sunday afternoon drives in the north end of Franklin County, telling the history of the Dublin community. I never saw him when he was not wearing a stiff bosomed white shirt. This was one of his several oddities. Aunt Hannah was very opposite, being small and wiry and a human dynamo, and I always marveled how one so small could turn out so much work. Aunt Hannah died August 17, 1922, being murdered by an irresponsible farm hand who died from self-inflicted wounds the following day. Uncle Moses died December 15, 1923 and both are buried in Union Cemetery across the road from the farm home. Their children are as follows:

9—5—1. William Walter Hess, b. 5-24-1873, d. 8-5-1875.

9—5—2. Benjamin Creswell Hess, b. 12-29-1875, m. Cristina (Teen) Campbell. They have two sons, Benjamin Hess and James Hess. All reside in Orange, California.

9—5—3. Elizabeth Hannah Hess, b. 9-30-1879.

9—5—4. Florence (Flora) Louise Hess, b. 3-9-1883.

9—6. Maria Louisa Hess was born March 7, 1847. She was four years old when her mother died and nine when her father died. Following this she lived in the home of her oldest brother Thomas Moore Hess. She attended the Franklin County schools and later her brother James took her to Westerville, Ohio, where he was attending Otterbein University, and here she received her higher educational advantages. Later they lived together on the Hess farm and James farmed and Aunt Louisa (Lou) taught school

for a number of terms and kept house. On April 30, 1873, she was married to William Preston Brown who was born March 25, 1842, and was a resident of Columbus, Ohio. After a wedding trip they returned to Columbus to their new home at 33 North Third Street. Uncle Press was a printer by trade and he followed this trade while a resident of Columbus. The family later moved to New York City where the sons engaged in the printing business and the daughters finished their education, Mary finishing in Medicine in the Medical School that is now a part of and affiliated with Columbia University, and Jessie preparing for a social worker in the same university. Because of the poor health of Aunt Lou the sons sold the New York City business and the family moved to Los Angeles, California, where they have since resided. Both Aunt Lou and Uncle Press were much interested in Hess family history and early began saving every scrap of information pertaining to the family that they could find. It is to them I have referred many times as the source of information. It is unquestionably true that they knew more about the descendants of Balser Hess and personally knew more Hesses than any other living persons. It is on the wall in the home of their two daughters in Los Angeles that the original Document number two, which is copied into this work, hangs today. Its preservation is due to the foresight of Aunt Lou who obtained it from Daniel Hess II, the last of his line, and had it placed between two plates of glass, for the benefit of future Hess generations. In fact this history would be very much curtailed, had it not been for their efforts in collecting material before I was born.

Louisa Hess Brown died in Los Angeles, California, October 9, 1918, and her husband William Preston Brown died, same place, January 8, 1929, and are both buried in Forest Lawn Cemetery Glendale, California. Their children are as follows:

9—6—1. Edward Cole Brown, b. 6-11-1874, Columbus, Ohio; d. May 18, 1924, Los Angeles, California, buried Forest Lawn Cemetery, Glendale, Calif.

- 9—6—2. Mary Hess Brown, b. 12-4-1876, lives in Los Angeles, California.
- 9—6—3. William Ballard Brown, b. 11-12-1878 at Columbus, d. October 27, 1941, in Missouri, following injuries received in an automobile accident and is buried Forest Lawn Cemetery, Glendale, California.
- 9—6—4. Jessie Louise Brown, b. 10-12-1880 at Columbus, Ohio, lives in Los Angeles, California.

HESS FAMILY REUNION

The descendants of Balser Hess held their first family reunion on August 19, 1901, at the farm home of Erastus J. Hess near Argos, Indiana. They organized the Hess Association and elected the following officers: E. W. Hess, President; J. N. Hess, Vice-President; Erastus Hess, Treasurer; L. J. Hess, Belinda Macomber and Isaiah Hess, Committee on Arrangements.

This association has continued to exist for half a century and a family reunion has been held each year, at various places in Elkhart, Kosciusko and Marshall Counties, Indiana. The attendants of this reunion have been largely the descendants of Balser Hess II, founder of the Indiana family, but the descendants of his brothers and sisters have always been invited and urged to attend, and few reunions have been held that some representatives of their families were not present.

The fiftieth reunion will be held at Goshen, Indiana, August 27, 1950, under the direction of the following officers and committees: Fred C. Hess, President; Glenn Hess, Vice-President; Lora S. Mainard, Secretary-Treasurer; Mary McDonald, Lettie Hess, and Mabel Hess, Arrangements Committee; Frank E. Hess, Mamie Hess Doseff, Pansy Hess Peterson, Russell Hess, and Lora S. Mainard, Program Committee.

This should be a great day in the history of the family: a home-coming never to be forgotten; a fitting celebration of the golden anniversary of the founding of the family association and reunion—a goal reached by few families; a day of planning for the next fifty years of family gatherings and family unity.

Postscript

Since this book was printed further research has revealed the following facts: On August 23, 1791, a deed from William Smith of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to John Immell of Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania, was given for a lot in Huntingdon, Pennsylvania. On September 21, 1791, John Immell and wife Susana deeded the same lot to John Cadwallader. Michael Cryder, his father-in-law, was one of the witnesses. **(Deed record B-B1, page 414, records of Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania).** This proves both were of Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania, in 1791. Next we find John Immell in Ross County, Ohio, where on August 22, 1799, he was one of the signers of a petition to Congress, to change the then existing land entry laws. Henry Musselman, his brother-in-law was also a signer. All petitioners said they lived on the east bank of the Scioto River in Ross County, Ohio. **(Territorial Papers of the Northwest Territory, Vol. 3, page 532 by Carter).** After selling above property, he probably moved to Ohio in early 1792, and his daughter Sarah Immell Hess was born on a flatboat on the Ohio River near Mays Lick, Kentucky, February 27, 1792, as claimed. It appears his wife died after locating in Ohio and he married a Silence. John Immell died early in 1803, and an estate was opened **(File No. 3670 C-D-1803 records of Ross County, Ohio).** Henry Musselman, as administrator held a sale of personal property on March 31, 1803. His return on this sale consists of 5 pages. Many of the buyers were Cryders, Musselmans and Immells. The following entries appear:

Silence Immell	many household items	various amounts
Jacob Immell	clothes	\$ 2.75
Israel Immell	clothes	\$ 2.75
Sarah Immell	chest of clothes	\$31.00
Silence Immell	for Michael Immell clothes	\$ 1.50

These last four sales certainly were to his children. Who else would have bought his clothes and a chest of clothes and all been Immells? These names check identically with paragraph eleven of the Michael Cryder will except that the last child is called John in the will and Michael in the bill of sale. It is conclusive proof that this John Immell was the father of the Immell children mentioned in the Michael Cryder will. Their mother and father were both dead by March 31, 1803, and Michael Cryder, their grandfather, reared them. In legal matters the father seems to have signed as John, but was probably called Mike and his full name was John Michael Immell.

Mrs. Nellie P. Waldenmaier, a professional genealogist, who is doing research work on the Immell family, and is at present searching the records of Ross County, Ohio, writes me as follows:

"Chillicothe, Ohio, June 24, 1950

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Hess:

I have found positive proof that the father of Jacob, Israel, John Jr., Michael and Sarah Immell, was John Immell, Sr. Also that Silence, his wife, married again. Second husband's name was Mooney. Also I find a deed signed by Bolser and Sarah Hess to land in Ross County owned by John Immell, deceased.

Sincerely: Nellie P. Waldenmaier."

Mrs. Hess and I spent some time working with Mrs. Waldenmaier in Washington, D. C., her home, searching the records for information concerning the Hesses, Cryders and Immells. It is a pleasure to here acknowledge our debt to her for what we think is the correct answer to the question of who was the father of the Immell children mentioned in Michael Cryder's will.

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